AMMAN (J.T.) — About 1,500 Israeli Arab pilgrims Wednesday arrived at Ghor Nimreen in the central Jordan Valley en route to Mecca to perform this year's pilgrimage. In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, head of the pilgrims mission Ibrahim Nimr Hussein expressed his heartfelt condolences and those of the pilgrims to His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad and the Royal Family, over the death of Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen Mother, on Tuesday. He thanked the Jordanian government for the facilities and arrangements made for their pilgrimage. Another group of 1,500 pilgrims will arrive at Ghor Nimreen Thursday en route to Mecca.

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AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY, APRIL 28-29, 1994, THU AL-QE'DEH 17-18, 1414

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Queen Mother laid to rest

Condolences pour in from Jordanians and foreign countries



Majesty Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen (photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen Mother, was laid to rest at the Royal Cemetery on Wednesday in пи сеген funeral prayers at the Royal

Guards Mosque. His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and mbers of the Royal Family led the mourners, clergy, Arab and fore tries as well as the President of Maii and a special envoy of the Omani sultan.

The funeral services transmitted live on television and radio, started with ade carrying the body of the late Queen leaving the Basman Palace here it was kent over night, to the Raghdan Palace.

The oakwood coffin. draped in the Jordanian flag, was placed atop a guncarriage by 10 army officers and the funeral procession started with the King and the Crown Prince im-

Funeral prayers were Mosque and then the funer-



A scene from the funeral procession (photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

the Royal Cemetery, where the body of the late Queen was laid to rest in the sa

Prince Hassan accepted joined for a short while by

the naval blockade in Aqaba

was not "100 per cent com-

plete" and that the Kingdom

was awaiting final agreement

and implementation before

announcing its return to the

Middle East peace negotia-

At a joint conference that

followed a meeting in London with His Majesty King Hus-

sein, U.S. Secretary of State

Warren Christopher

who looked

Among those calling the President Ali Abdullah Saleh, and Lebanese President Elias Hrawi and Turkish President Suleiman

Cables also cause from American President Bill Climton, Russian President Boris Yeltsin, Chinese President Jiang Zemin, French President François Mitterrand. Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chair-

man Yasser Arafat, President Demirel, Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller and Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Ceiteen. Cables of condolences

were sent by Saudi Arabia's King Fabd, King Hassan II of Morocco, Sheikh Issa Ben Salman Al Khalifa of

(Continued on page 5)

Israel and PLO go all out for agreement

Arafat, Peres meet today; PLO hopes for help from Christopher

CAIRO (Agencies) — Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) agreed here Wednesday to hold open-ended talks until they finally seal an accord on launching Palestinian self-rule.

"From now on, we will continue in open session until the accord is signed," chief PLO negotiator Nabil Shaath told reporters.
We will continue work over

the weekend to draft the accord," which is to be signed in the Egyptian capital by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, he said.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres will hold talks with Mr. Arafat here on Thursday to prepare the ground for a meeting between the PLO chairman and Mr. Rabin, the Israeli foreign ministry said.

Sources close to the ministry added that Mr. Rabin had instructed Mr. Peres to stay on with the Israeli autonomy negotiators until a final accord was clinched for launching selfrule in Gaza and Jericho.

In contrast to last week, when Dr. Shaath said the accord would be ready for signing between May 2 and May 4, he declined to forecast a date. "It's difficult to fix a date

from now," Dr. Shaath said. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher was due in Cairo late Wednesday and was also expected to meet Mr. Peres and Mr. Arafat, as well as Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Mr. Christopher will stay in the hotel where the self-rule negotiations are taking place, which is across the road from Mr. Arafat's residence.

Arafat-Peres-Warren Christopher: All of these meetings are here to signal to our people that it is very imminent," said Dr. Shaath. "The final draft agreement is close to being finished."

part, General Amnon Shahak. would fly home for consultations in Israel but return on

Disputes over the size of an autonomous Jericho and PLO demands to post a Palestinian soldier on the King Hussein Bridge are to be left for Mr. Arafat and Mr. Rabin to re-

solve, Dr. Shaath said.
"But otherwise we are trying not to leave anything to our leaderships," said the nego-

A PLO official said Palesti-nians hope Mr. Christopher will lean on Israel to cede more authority in autonomous areas.

Faisa! Al Husseini, PLO leader in the occupied territories, said Israeli negotiators were jeopardising future security in the Gaza Strip and Jericho by limiting Palestinian

"I believe that the Israeli policy is to reduce our authority, which for sure will reduce our control and that will reduce our ability to provide security," said Mr. Husseini,

who is visiting Cairo.

Mr. Husseini told reporters the Palestinian delegation here would inform Mr. Christopher of some of the issues obstructing the launch of Palestinian

He would be told of the difficulties "so that he can try to convince the Israelis to change" some of the positions, Mr. Husseini said.

Mr. Husseini said although the issue of jurisdiction in the territories remained "the main obstacle" there had been a breakthrough.

He said both sides had agreed that the Israeli military controlling the three lateral

tiements in Gaza would have the right to question non-Israeli and non-Palestinian He said his Israeli counter-

> If the visitors were accused of a serious crime, then they would be handed over to Palestinian authorities, Mr. Husseini said.

But the two sides still disagree on who should have the right to try a Palestinian who attacked a settler, he said, adding he was not taking part

in the talks. He insisted the future Palestinian authorities should be given "full powers," saying incomplete powers would reduce their ability "to provide total security," in Gaza, where Jewish settlements will remain,

and in Jericho. Another PLO official said Israel had agreed in principle to free 3,400 more Palestinian prisoners in return for an amnesty for thousands of

Palestinian collaborators. Israel has already agreed to release 5,000 prisoners once a deal on launching Palestinian self-rule is signed with the

The PLO official, who refused to be named, said Israel had agreed to the additional releases provided the PLO announced an amnesty for about 3,000 Palestinian collaborators, who live in special camps protected by the Israeli army.

It was uncertain whether the PLO had agreed to meet the terms, and the timetable for the prisoners release was still under discussion.

Israel was still examining the cases of some of the 3,400 prisoners, as it has vowed not to free any Palestinians involved in attacks on Israelis.

Both sides agreed on the (Continued on page 5)

Jordan awaits Aqaba arrangement to be in place

By Nermeen Murad Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — After the U.S. announced its acceptance of a Jordanian proposal to ease the naval blockade against the port of Aqaba, the Kingdom will await final agreement and implementation before renewing its full participation in the peace process, a senior Jordanian official said Wednesday.

Information Minister Jawad Al Anani told the Jordan Times that the Kingdom is satisfied with the U.S. move, which he said, had "removed a major obstacle and has allowed the Kingdom to shift its position towards renewed participation in the peace process." But he pointed out that the

U.S.-Jordan agreement over

announced that "subject to fine tuning" the U.S. accepted a Jordanian proposal on a new land-based system of verifying compliance with international sanctions against Iraq without the need to inter-

cept ships at midsea.

The acceptance came after months of deliberations which prompted the King to link Jordan's return to the peace talks with Israel to an end to the sea-based inspections of all Jordan-bound vessels by a U.S.-led naval force which Washington calls the multipational Interception Force

Dr. Anani said that the U.S.' positive response is an indication of the "unfolding realisation of Jordan's important role," another issue that Jordan tied to the renewal of Jordan's participation in the

King Hussein had told representatives of Security Council member countries that he beheved the pressure on Jordan with the Agaba siege was humiliating to Jordan and indicated a lack of appreciation for Jordan's positive role in promoting peace in the region.

Dr. Anani, who said that the problem with the U.S. could have been averted earlier, said that this latest move will contribute positively to the "credibility of U.S. policies" in the Kingdom.

Politicians and analysts interviewed by the Jordan Times agreed that the Jordan-U.S. agreement has placed Jordan back into its traditionally important role in the Middle East

Jordan had stuck to its conditions out of total frustration with the U.S. on two occasions where Arabs and Israelis were meeting for multilateral negotiations, Jordan sent only lowlevel observers to attend the meetings and held back "active

In the multilateral meeting on water, held for the first time in a Gulf state, Oman, Jordan. balanced its need to underline that it was not going to play a spoiler role by boycotting the meeting with a reiteration to its. ultimatum on Aqaba. The Jordanian observer to that meeting managed to delay the issuing of recommendations at: the end of that meeting for: several hours before allowing. the meeting to conclude for the sake of maintaining Amman's; relations with Muscat.

Observers believe that having been awarded a dignified: way out of what was threatening to escalate into an open confrontation with Washington, Jordan is now willing to:

(Continued on page 5)

2 Israeli soldiers stabbed in Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian stabbed two Israeli soldiers at an indoor Jerusalem shopping mail on Wednesday, police had

Both Israelis were in fair condition and in hospital, police said.

Police said that the two soldiers were sitting outside one of the gates to the mall when a young Arab man shouting "Allahu Akbar" stabbed them

in the back and fled. The assailant was caught at a nearby construction site by two policemen and two bus drivers. An Israeli soldier was found

stabbed to death in the West Bank last week. Hamas claimed responsibility for that Palestinian leaders will urge

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher to press Israel to ease restrictions on the occupied territoires when they meet in east Jerusalem on Friday. . "The main subject on the

agenda with Christopher will be the situation in the occupied territories and continued Israeli settlement," said Saeb Erakat, head of the Palestinian delegation to Middle East peace talks in Washington. Previous meetigns between

Palestinian representatives and U.S. envoys concentrated on the bilateral negotiations, but with the launch of self-rule expected shortly, life in the occupied territories will dominate Friday's session.

"We will focus this time on asking Christopher to pressure Israel to end the siege on the territories and to stop settlement activities," Dr. Erakat Israel totally sealed off the

West Bank and Gaza Strip on April 7 after a bomber blew up a bus killing eight Israelis in revenge for the Feb. 25 Hebron mosque massacre of more than 30 Palestinians. Despite a slight lifting of the

closure, thousands of Palestimians have lost their jobs and life is severely disrupted by the ban on entry into Arab East

Hanan Ashrawi, the former Palestinian spokeswoman who now heads a human rights group, said: "There is a great gap now between the peace process and the situation on the ground here.'

Faisal Husseini, the head of the mainstream Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) movement Fatch on the West Bank, will lead the Palestinian delegation,

S. Africans flock to vote; whites held as blast suspects

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — Black South Africans weaned on the dream of political power endured blazing sun, slashing rain and endless queues to vote Wednesday, as police hailed a breakthrough against right-wingers intent on bombing the country back to apartheid.

Police Commissioner Johan Van der Merwe told a news conference here detectives had arrested 31 right-wing suspects hours after a white man injured 16 people, two of them seriously, with a car-bomb that wrecked the entrance to the international departures hall at Jan Smuts Airport. Mr. Van der Merwe said the

suspects were linked to the airport blast and massive carbombs that killed nine people Sunday in downtown Johannesburg and 10 more at a black taxi rank in Germiston east of the city Monday. Some of them were mem-

bers of the neo-Nazi Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB), and one was a policeman, he said, denying any high-level complicity in the force.

"We have good reason to believe that the persons we arrested are the brains behind the terror acts," he said. "We

have for the immediate future ! taken the core out of the radical right wing.

Quantities of weapons, ammunition and explosives have also been seized," Mr. Van der Merwe added, as detectives showed journalists. plastic explosives they had confiscated.

Thousands of blacks waited in vain for polling stations to open, and many strode off in disgust as officials were overwhelmed by numbers in a country where only a few had ever voted before.

(Continued on page 5)

Mark on Your Calendar **W**Bani AAHamida presents "Artists Expressions in Wool" Sunday, May 8 - Sunday, May 15 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. at the Jordanian Construction Contractors Association Bidg. Tel. 658696

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By Nadim Kawash Agence France Presse

ABU DHABI — Arab states should work to stop wasting water resources, faced with a steady increase in consumption due to rapid population growth, an official study says.

The study by the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) said the Arab World had less than one per cent of the world's water resources and its per capita share of water was a fraction of the world average.

It gave no figures for current demand but said consumption had steadily risen over the past few years and would reach 370 billion cubic metres in the year 2000, and 390 billion cubic metres in 2010.

The study said the steady rise in water consumption meant that in the long term the Arab needed to make intensive efforts to map out realistic national plans to develop water

They would have to cover the development of competent of water resources. "Rationalisation will have a great effect on meeting demand because there is a big loss of water that could be reduced to acceptable levels through effective surveillance

fund for economic and social development. It put Arab sweet ground water reserves at 7.73 trillion cubic metres, accounting for 0.07 per cent of the world's

techniques and systems," said

the study, prepared jointly

with the Kuwaiti-based Arab

reserves. River water is estimated at 315 billion cubic metres per year, accounting for 0.7 percent of the world's river water. Another eight billion cubic metres per year comes from desalination plants in desert

Gulf states, it said. Per capita share of water in the 22-member Arab League is estimated at 1,407 cubic metres, compared with a world average of 12,900 cubic

Around 90 per cent of the

the Arab World annually went into agriculture. "This shows the importance of rationalising water consumption in this sector," the report said.

Water is one of the main issues on the agenda of the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations, along with refugees, the environment, the economy and arms control.

The latest round of water talks, held in Oman last week, brought together delegates from 44 countries and orga-

The meeting produced agreements on five major projects, including setting up a water desalination research centre in the Omani capital

Experts said an agreement on water in the Middle East was needed to prevent a fresh conflict in the region, where most countries are suffering from a water shortage.

Water problems have already soured relations between Turkey and its Arab neighbours Syria and Iraq,

which depend mainly on rivers flowing from Turkey.

The report by the Abu Dhabi-based AMF showed water resources varied widely in Arab countries.

Egypt has the bulk of ground water, estimated at six trillion cubic metres, while Sudan and Iraq have the biggest river water resources, at 131.6 billion cubic metres.

Jordan, a participant in the bilateral negotiations with Israel, has only 700 million cubic metres of river water and 12 billion cubic metres of underground water.

The report showed underground water was negligible in the occuped territories, while river water stood at only 130 million cubic metres.

The report said that to develop their water resources and stop waste, Arab states should work to identify leakage problems, introduce of water facilities, exploit underground water which flows into the sea and recycle irrigation and sewage

Egyptian militants face limited set-back after leader's death

NEWS IN BRIEF

CAÍRO (AFP) — A two-year violent campaign to topple the government of President Hosni Mubarak is likely to be only temporarily set back by the

killing of one of its leaders, experts say. Police said they gunned

down 32-year-old Talaat Yassin Hammam, head of the Al Gamaa Al Islamiyah's armed wing, and six other militants in a dawn raid Monday on Hammam's apartment in northeast

But experts said Hammam's death would only cause shortterm disarray among the group as it can draw on a vast reserve of militants, especially from the ranks of veterans of the Afghanistan war.

Researcher Nabil Abdul Fattah said that out of the thousands of Egyptians who fought in the war "some 600 are still active."

About 150 had returned to Egypt, he said, where 70 had

been arrested. Militants on the ground, however important they are, form a link with the leaders of the movement still abroad, one diplomat said. Such a chain cushioned the

impact of their disappearance "because foot-soldiers can always be replaced," he added. Sources close to militants said Hammam, who had been on the run for five years, directed all armed attacks, including the April 9 murder of General Rauf Khayrat, the government's second highest ranking security officer.

His death also followed the killing of the military leader of the Jihad Islami group, Adel Awad Mahmud Siyam, on April 4 in a police ambush in a southern district of Cairo.

Interior Minister Hassan Alfi said the raid had been led by a special anti-terrorist

squad. In another raid Monday on an apartment in Assiyut, police shot dead four suspected Gamaa militants believed to have been behind last Wednesday's murder of General Sherin Fahmy, head of security forces in the southern city.

Clashes between militants and security forces are "often a kind of violent vendetta" with police operations following a militant attack or vice versa, said Mr. Abdul Fattan.

Monday's deaths raised to 378 the number of people killed since the militants launched their violent anti-government campaign two years ago. The dead include 134 policemen and 135 militants.

Hammam was among other militants to set up the first Gamaa training camp in Peshawar in Pakistan in 1989, sources close to the militants

He was the link between militants in Egypt and those overseas, particularly Rifai; Ahmea Taha, who lives in Peshawar, Egyptian sources

Egyptian authorities consider the militants' campaign their : main security problem, Mr.; Abdul Fattah said, adding that there was little willingness to "confront in a similar way the problem of social, cultural and political inequality which is the root cause of the violence."

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institutions and rationalisation Scholars agree Sudan status quo unviable

BOSTON (USIA) — The current situation in Sudan - politically, economically and morally — represents "the deepest crisis" the country has faced since independence, according to U.S. and Sudanese scholars who gathered here April 20-23 for the Third International Meeting of the Sudan Studies Asso-

Many conference participants argued that since the stem has for four decades blocked a genuine North-South dialogue and equitable division of power, partition looms as the only viable alternative if the people of Southern Sudan are to regain their human rights and economic well-being. For Dr. Carolyn Fluehr-

Lobban, however, partition is avoidable if secular politicians in the Arab/Muslim north and Christian/animist south can "rise to the challenge" and create a "new vision... a vision. that changes the failed political

Leading an April 23 panel on "Sudan and its Survival as a Dr. rm author of several books on Sudan and one of the U.S. organisers of the three-day conference held in Boston's Colonnade Hotel, said that both the ruling National Islamic Front (NIF) and the opposition Democratic Alliance must "step aside to allow new political organisations to take their place, which can conceptualize the Sudan in

"Religion is not a unifier, it is a proven divider," she said, indicating that it is also divisive for one or two languages to dominate the entire linguistic landscape. What is more appropriate for Sudan's multireligious, multi-lingual society, she opined, is for the country to return to its "fundamental egalitarian character" — to elevate Dinka and other tribal tongues to the level of Arabic, and to explore the "common cultural roots" in North-South literature, customs and folklore, when attempting to build

In a scorching assessment of the NIF's economic policies since 1989, Dr. Ibrahim Karsany, a Sudanese professor teaching at the American University in Cairo, called the Islamicisation of the country's economy a continuation of "the discredited International Monetary Fund model" for growth, and an attempt to package "old wine in a new bottle."

"What is Islamic about increasing the public deficit by \$28.6 billion? What is Islamic

about an annual inflation rate of 90 per cent or more?... What is Islamic about decreasing export earnings from \$527 million just before the coup, to 343 million in 1992, to less than 100 million nowadays?" Dr. Kursany asked in a rhetorical flurry. The NIF model, he argued, "is full of lies and contradictions." At a time when the U.N.'s World Food Programme is predicting widespread food shortages, he noted, the Khartoum govern-

ment is sending relief supplies

to Bosnia and Somalia.

"They are establishing a late 20th century Dark Ages... (and) promising the Sudanes: people to take them back to the era of the Prophet Mohammad," Dr. Kursany said. "I call upon them not to take us as far back as that, but if they a national consciousness. can, just to take us back to 1956, the year of Sudan's political independence, when one Sudanese pound was equal to three dollars (versus the current exchange rate of one dollar equalling 520 pounds) and Sudan did not have a single

> sor in exile chided the NIF for raising "empty slogans" like we eat what we grow" and "we wear what we manufacture" in an attempt to cloak Sudan's international isolation

dollar of foreign debt."

in the guise of self-sufficiency.
"By sticking to the first (slogan)," he pointed out, the Oner Al Bashir government "ended up with three million Sudanese facing famine. If they stick to the other, they will have an equivalent number going naked."

Amir Hassan Idris, a Northern Sudanese now teaching at the American University of Cairo, agreed with Dr. Kursany and southern Sudanese speakers that the Khartoum regime lacks credibility and legitimacy among the Sudanese themselves. At the same time, Idris argued that analysts ought to recognise the

historic legacy of oppression. In a panel on "Women's Survival in Sudan," speakers pointed out that a serious gender gap has existed alongside the problem of regional, ethnic and religious discrimination. Fatma Ahmad Ibrahim.

a former union leader and Sudan's first woman member of Parliament declared: "The slogans which say that the home is the 'kingdom of the woman' are false. It is the which she can be kicked (out) any time with a single word... Islam is not opposed to women's rights, but religious leaders are interpreting Islam in a manner that suits them.'

.Libyan religious delegation who wanted to make arrangements for Libyan pilgrims to go to Mecca, the Libyan news

ency JANA reported. Quoting the Libyan daily "Islamic call," JANA said Libyan Muslim clerics had been to several Islamic countries "as part of efforts to lift obstacles imposed by the west on Libyan wishing to make their pilgrimage." JANA said all the delegations had fulfilled their missions "except the one which was to go to Saudi Arabia where the authorities refused to grant them entry visas." The United Nations slapped an air embargo on Libya in April 1992 banning flights to or from that country to punish Libya for refusing to hand over two suspects in the 1988 Lockerbie aircraft bombing which killed 270 people. Libyans wishing to travel abroad may only do so by sea or overland.

Saudis refuse visa to Libyan delegation

TRIPOLI (AFP) - Saudi Arabia has refused entry visas to a

Two anti-Arab groups join forces

TEL AVIV (AP) - The two main Jewish extremist groups outlawed by the government after the Hebron mosque massacre announced Tuesday they were joining forces against the government. While sharing the same jail cell, Kahane Lives and Kach Leaders put aside the personal rivalry that split the original Kach movement after the 1989 death of their leader, Rabbi Meir Kahane, Israel Television said. Kahane Lives leader and son of the founder of Kach Binyamin Kahane called a joint press conference with top Kach activist Michael Ben-Ari. Kach leader Baruch Marzel has been jailed without trial under special emergency regulations. "This step comes after the government put a large group of people into jail and established with its own hands an alternative leadership to its rule," Mr. Kahane told journalists. Eight Kach leaders including Mr. Marzel are in jail under special regulations allowing imprisonment without trial. Mr. Ben-Ari said the two groups would coordinate on public activities, including "legal" action against all kinds of government decisions and other steps we choose, some to be announced and some to be spoken only afterwards."

Embassy stops Yemeni rescue attempt

SANAA (AP) — At the request of the Dutch embassy Yemen dropped a plan to have army troops storm a tribal hideaway to release three Dutch hydrologists held hostage since March 25, Interior Ministry sources said Tuesday. The Ministry of the Interior had mobilised about 2,000 soldiers to seai off the haunt near Marib to the east of the capital, Sanaa, said the sources. But the Dutch embassy, fearful the hostages would be harmed in the operation or their lives threatened by the kidnappers, advised against the operation, they said. According to a report in the English-language weekly Yemen Times on Sunday, the ministry gave Sheikh Mubarak Saleh of the Gahm tribe 48 hours to release the three men or face confrontation. The Dutch embassy declined any comment on the situation of the three men or the efforts being made to secure their release as it has done throughout their ordeal. The hostages are Jac Van der Gun, 47; Gerard Jeurissen, 57; and Wilbert Elderhorst, 39, of the Dutch science institute TNO. They were seized while on an outing outside Sanaa by the same man who took U.S. Information Service chief Haynes Mahoney on Thanksgiving day and held him for six days.

Kurdish rebels release two newsmen

ERUH, Turkey (AP) - Separatist Kurdish guerrillas released a Turkish reporter and a cameraman on Tuesday, after holding them hostage for three months, the Anatolia news agency said. Freelance reporter Kutlu Esendemir and Levent Recep Ozturk, the cameraman, were on assignment for the ultra-rightist TV station TGRT, when they were abducted some 40 kilometres southwest of this town in Sirnak province last January. The dispatch said the two men were being questioned by the security forces. No further details were made public. The guerrillas belong to the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK), which has been fighting for autonomy in the Kurdish-dominated southeastern provinces since 1984. More than 12,000 people have died so far. The insurgents threatened to kill Turkish and foreign reporters in the area, accusing them for what the rebeis called pro-government coverage. Fourteen journalists have been killed in southeastern Turkey since February 1992.

Turkey hails return of sarcophagus

ISTANBUL (R) - Turkey claimed a victory in the war against art smuggling with the return from the United States of a Roman sarcophagus valued at \$3.5 million. "The return of the sarcophagus is deterring the acquisition of stolen ancient objects of art and culture in the world," Culture Minister Fikri Saglar told a news conference in Istanbul. The 3.2-tonne "Garland Sarcophagus" smuggled from Antalya in southern Turkey by truck in 1987, was shown to reporters at the museum of antiquities where it was put on display. The 2nd century A.D. stone coffin was flown to Istanbul over the weekend. The sarcophagus, which takes its name from marble garlands surrounding carved threatre masks, figurines and Medusa heads, was acquired by an investment banker in New York. The banker reportedly donated the sarcophagus to a Turkish-American foundation after the Turkish government took legal action in the U.S. to repossess it, setting the stage for its return. Mr. Saglar said the \$3 billion market in the West for stolen antiquities, originating mainly from the Middle East, would dry up if the countries reclaimed them through foreign courts. Mr. Saglar said the government had demanded the return of Trojan treasures from Russia, a Hittite sphynx from Germany and 1,800 Lycian silver coins from the U.S.

Iran launches war games in the Hormuz

TEHRAN (AFP) - Iran has started a week of military manoeuvres that will include launching missiles, in the Hormuz Strait, gateway to the Gulf, the official agency IRNA said. Surface-to-air missiles will be fired from the Iranian coast, and units from the crack Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps are to attack pretend enemy ships, the agency added. The first Iranian-built hydrofoil will be used in the exercises, Iranian navy commander, Rear Admiral Ali Shamkhani, said. The manoeuvres are code-named after "the eighth (Muslim Shiite) imam," who was called Reza. The Revolutionary Guards and the regular army have carried out 36 military exercises over the past 12 months and earlier this year the Iranian army carried out joint manoeuvres with the Pakistani mayy accommon a common to the common to the

Greece urges Turkey to back Cyprus moves:

ATHENS (R) — Greece said on Tuesday that if Turkey wanted to help settle the Cyprus problem it should push for the adoption of U.N.-proposed confidence building measures. Responding to statements by Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller that she wanted to help resolve the issue, government spokesman Evangelos Venizelos said she must back the confidence building measures for the militarity-divided island. "If Mrs. Ciller wishes to undertake initiatives, she must first understand that the Cyprus problem is one of invasion and occupation by Turkish forces," he told reporters. "She will have to show a positive stance in relation to the confidence building measures." Ms. Ciller was quoted on Monday as saying she was eager to grasp what she called a historic chance to solve the dispute. "Turkey is the country most affected by the lack of a solution. There is a historic chance before us. We shouldn't miss it," Hurriyet newspaper quoted her as saying. This time, I am determined to walk towards a solution and I say to everyone, 'let's solve it this time'," said Ms. Ciller.

Opposition wins half of Morocco by-elections

RABAT (AFP) - Opposition parties garnered seven out of 14 parliamentary seats at stake in by-elections held on Tuesday, according to official results in most constituencies announced overnight. The nationalist Istiqlal Party won three seats, while the Socialist Union of Popular Forces and the communist Socialism and Progress Party each won two. The right-wing Constitutional Union Party, the biggest component in the government coalition, took three seats, while the centrist National Rally of Independents won one. The outcome will not affect the right's overwhelming majority in parliament. All but one of the 14 by-elections resulted from the invalidation of elections held last year.

Israelis open hospital in South Lebanon

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Israel has inaugurated a \$1 million hospital built in the Israeli-controlled "security zone" of South Lebanon, military sources said Tuesday. The hospital in the Shiite village of Bint Jebel is equipped with Israeli medical equipment and will provide jobs for 80 Lebanese. The funding is part of a \$7 million "civilian aid" package which Israel plans to invest in South Lebanon, the sources said. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Antoine Lahd, leader of the pro-Israeli South Lebanon Army, the military commander of northern Israel, General Yitzhak Mordechai, and the coordinator of Israeli activities in Lebanon, Un Lubrani, the sources

ebanon

By Michel Castex Agence France Presse

BEIRUT - War crimes forgotten since a general amnesty was announced at the end of the 1975-1990 civil war have returned to haunt the Lebanese following the arrest of a former Christian warlord in a murder case.

Samir Geagea of the Lebanese Forces (LF) militia is being questioned over the October 1990 killing of Dany Chamoun, son of a former president and Christian leader, his wife and their two small children.

Some 150 ex-militiamen have also been rounded up as part of the investigation and several others were arrested last month in connection with a church bombing in February which killed 10 worshippers and wounded 54 others. Since then, Iran has called

on Lebanon to reopen an investigation into the fate of four Iranians, including two diplomats, who were kidnapped in 1982 by the militia in

The Lebanese judicial au-

requests from other parties and individuals here asking them to reactivate other investigations into attempted murders, murders and bombings that have never been

Some press reports have indicated that a dozen files would be reopened soon as part of investigations involving Dr. Geagea and his sup-

If found guilty, Dr. Geages and his partisans could face the death penalty which was brought back in last month. A child-killer was hanged at dawn Saturday in the first execution in 11 years.

The moves have caused shock-waves across Lebanon, where it was commonly be lieved that the August 1991 general amnesty had erased once and for all any responsibility for the atrocities com-

mitted during the conflict. But political and judicial sources here said that the files being examined now had been excluded from the

Some observers have

voiced concern that the procedures would be the start of a settling of old scores in which the Christians could pay dearly.

The files were reopened after investigations showed that the FL was implicated in the February church bombing and coincided with a government ban on private radio and television news broadcast since March.

According to political and judicial sources the church attack proved that the Lebanese Forces, which formed a political party after being disbanded along with other militias in 1990, still threatened state security.

Unlike other warlords, Dr. Geagea ordered a number of actions in order to promote federalism after a 1989 interparliamentary accord put an end to the war, a pro-Syrian

government source said.

The downfall of Dr. Geagea, who is accused of crimes against other Christians, has further traumatised the Christian community which has failed to adapt to

the new order in Lebanon. Monsignor Nasrallah Sfeir, head of the Maronite Catholic church, Lebanon's biggest Christian community, de-nounced in his latest Sunday sermon "some practices which show Christians as criminals and others as angels."

The fears of the Christian community have been further heightened because some of the most atrocious crimes committed during the war have been blamed on the LF.

These include the 1982 massacre of Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps and the murder in 1978 of Toiny Franjieh, the son of late President Suleiman Franjieyh and a close personal friend of Syria's Hafez Al

"War criminals do not belong to one religious community or to one party, stressed the respected Al Nahar daily in a front-page editorial.

"The judicial authorities should not become an instrument of vengence or for set-tling accounts," it added.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION PROGRAMME TWO

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The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tél. 654932
Church of Nazarene Tel.675691.
The Evangelical Local Church in Am-Tel. 811295

WEATHER

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EMERGENCIES

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QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Oneen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified. Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) 64:10 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)

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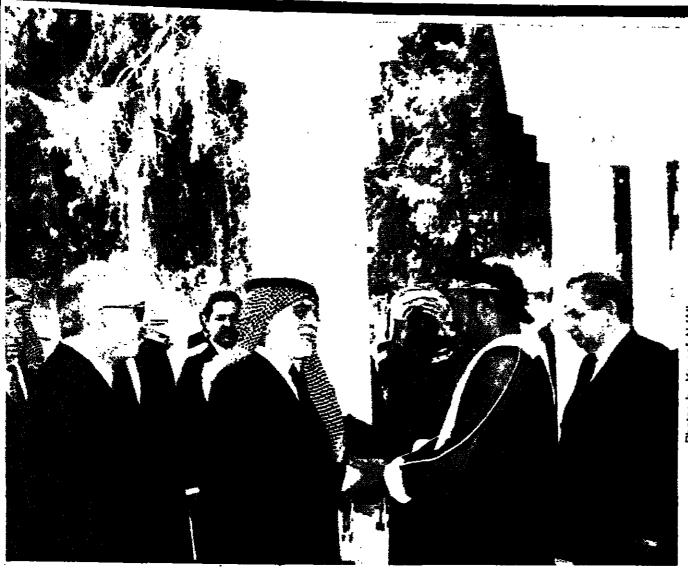
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His Majesty King Hussein receives condolences from Shabib Ben Taymour, advisor to Sultan Qaboos of Oman

Arab delegations arrive to condole King

AMMAN (Petra) — A threeman Omani delegation led by Sultan Qaboos' advisor on environmental affairs Shabib Ben Taymour Wednesday left Amman after attending the burial of Queen Mother Zein Al Sharaf who died Tuesday at the age of 85. Mr. Ben Taymour conveyed the condolences of Sultan Qaboos to His Majesty King Hussein and to the Hashemite family. The de-legation included the Omani Minister of Civil Services Ahmad Makki Abdul Nabi and Secretary General of the Omani Prime Ministry Hmoud Bousaidi. The Oma-

ni delegation was seen off by

the Christian community in

Jordan Wednesday

announced the cancellation

of all celebrations marking

Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid and the Oma-ni ambassador to Jordan. Other Arab delegations arrived here Wednesday to attend the burial of Queen Zein and to offer condo-Qatari Minister of Finance

and Commerce Sheikh Mohammad Ben Khalifah Ben Hamad arrived here to convey the condolences of the Qatari leader, Sheikh Hamad Ben Khalifah Al Thani, to King Hussein.
The Palestinian delegation

included Hani Al Hassan and Abbas Zaki, members of the Central Committee of Fatch (the PLO mainstream) who

the mourning period for Her

Majesty Queen Zein Al Shar-

af who died Tuesday. A

statement signed by Father

were joined by the Palesti-nian ambassador to Jordan Al Tayyeb Abdul Rahim. The three-man delegation attended the funeral of Queen Zein and conveyed the condolences of the Palestinian leadership to

King Hussein.

A Palestinian delegation from the occupied West Bank also arrived here via King Hussein Bridge to offer con-dolences to King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad

and the Royal Family.

The delegation is led by Abdul Azim Salhab, head of the Awque Council in the

the Greek Orthodox, Greek

Catholic, the Armenian

Orthodox, Syrian Orthodox,

Coptic, and the Arab Angli-

occupied West Bank. Queen Zein was laid to rest in the Royal Cemetery. Also Wednesday an Iraqi envoy arrived to convey President Saddam Hussein's con-

dolences to the King. President Hussein's special advi-sor Khaled Abdul Munim Al Janabi was received by the King's special advisor Khalid Al Karaki.

Later Wednesday Qatari envoy Sheikh Mohammad Ben Khalifa left Amman after conveying Sheikh Hamad Ben Khalifah Al Thani's condolences to the King during an audience attended by His Royal Highness Grown Prince Hassan



MMAN (J.T.) — Heads of ceremonies, in observance of Nabeel Haddad on behalf of can churches, exp over the passing of Queen Zein, the Queen Mother, and extended their condolences to the Royal Family.



His Majesty King Hussein leads members of the Royal Family towards the tomb of the late King Talai where Queen Zein was laid to rest Wednesday afternoon



Royal Guards carry the casket of Her Majesty Queen Zein Al Sharaf through the gates of Raghadan Palace

Jordanians remember Queen Zein

AMMAN (Petra) — Representatives of the educational and social sectors Wednesday expressed deep sorrow over the death of the Queen Mother, Her Majesty Queen Zein Al Sharaf, and recalled her great contributions to the advancement of the women and social work in Jordan. Naela Rashdan, member of the Upper House of Parliament said Jordan will miss the Queen Mother who has

brought up Jordan's great leadership.
"While paying our last re-spects to the Queen Mother, we will be missing her maternal love, and care for the orphans and the poor, as wellas her support for Jordanian

Haifa Abu Ghazaleh, president of the General Federation of Jordanian Women (GFJW), said Queen Zein was an active supporter of the women's movement in Jor-dan and was behind its progress and development.
"Queen Zein left her mark on the Kingdom, thus enabling Jordanian women to reap the fruits of her tireless and dedicated efforts," Dr. Abu

Ghazaleh said.

Eida Al Mutlaq, a former member of the National Consultative Council, recalled Queen Zein's struggle to build modern Jordan and noted her efforts to advance the status of women. "Her bright thoughts were embo-died in the formulation of the first Jordanian Charter, a document ensuring democracy, social justice and equality for all Jordanians, men and women alike," Dr. Mutlaq

Former GFJW President Queen Mother laid down the foundation stone of the Jordanian branch of the Arab Women's Federation in 1944, which was formed to support

the Palestinian struggle against Zionist aims. Ms. Al Bashir recalled Queen Zein's concern and care for orphaned children. "When the leader gave

Jordanian women the right to vote in 1974, the Queen Mother opened her palace to receive congratulations," she Hind Abdul Jaber, President of Business and Professional Women's Club, said Queen Zein was an example and a pioneer in social work. "Queen Zein was an example to Jordanian women in the

Her toles as honorary president of Um Al Hussein Orphanage and chairperson of the first Jordanian ness to this," Ms. Abdul Ja-ber said. Queen Zein directed the women's movement to serve local communities, she added.

field of social development.

Director of Um Al Hussein Orphanage Muslih Suleiman Khalaf said Queen Zein "started her march in the 1950s and has always looked after the orphanage's children." He added that the Queen Mother always called on Jordanian women to con-tribute towards the humanitarian work of the orphan-

Director of the Consultations and Community Service Centre at Yarmouk University Ahmad Al Khatib said Wednesday was a day of grief and sorrow for all Jordanians, because the Queen Mother is the mother of all

"Her patronage of the orphanages and charity dies the intrinsic maternal values and loyalty to the homeland values that she had attempted to instill in every home," he said.



The funeral procession marches towards the Royal Guards Mosque

Studies on widespread ailment nearly non-existent in Jordan

By Natasha Bukhari Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN - Studies to cure peptic alcers, which are common among peoples of the third world, are limited among Jordan's specialists and non-existent in the Jordanian Doctors Union

For years, doctors believed that the only way to help stomach ulcer patients was by giving them pain killers to minimise the discomfort caused by ulcers. Nevertheless, hope to cure this nagging ailment has been restored by medical researchers

A March, 1994 report pub-

lished by the British maga-. zine, the Economist, said an expert panel put together by the NIH has reached the conclusion that peptic ulcers are linked with infection caused by the insect Helicobacter.

The report titled "Ulcer Freedom Fighters," has been received by media channels with enthusiasm; it was published in the Jordan Times' Health and Medicine column on March 31 and in Al-Aswaq daily. It was also fea-tured by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)

network Monday evening. Still such a breakthrough in medical research, which promises the treatment of the

infection rather than just the symptoms, is being received with indifference by our spe-

One of Jordan's medical experts told the Jordan Times that this new method of treat-

ment "does not work." The report, however, said that research has proved that two weeks of antimacrobial treatment "should do the

"A mixture of Pepto-Bismol (an U.S. brand antacid), metronidazole and either tetracycline or amoxicillin, gets rid of the infection in 90 per cent of patients," said the report.

According to JDU Direc-

tor Ishaq Maraqa the JDU's activities do not include medical follow up on the latest studies or reports.

"Doctors subscribe to different medical magazines that publish the latest in the area of medical science, and it is up to each doctor whether or not to adopt those medical practices," Dr. Maraqa told the Jordan Times Tuesday.

Observers argue that the indifference of the JDU to inform the public, and specialists in particular, on the latest methods of disease treatments in uniustified. The JDU's role is to offer the best kind of services to the

public, and that involves making available modern treatment practices, one doctor told the Jordan Times.

Dr. Maraqa said that it is the responsibility of the different specialists' societies to conduct research and studies that deal with modern medical practices.

The second doctor, who asked not to be named, told the Jordan Times that the JDU "does nothing" to update doctors' knowledge on certain medical issues. He added that most doc-

tors are busy doing their work and sometimes miss out on important issues. "It would be helpful if the JDU drew the attention of specialists in the country on matters of medical concern before they are published in the papers," he said.

"According to the Economist report, the germfighting treatment not only frees patients of agonising pain, but also saves them money. By using the twoweek treatment, patients would not have to spend so much on ulcer pain relief medications for the rest of

their lives. "From an economic perspective, antibiotic therapy is the treatment of choice. It also makes people heal-thier," concluded the report.

On behalf of His Majesty the King of Spain.

the government and the Spanish people, the Spanish Embassy presents its heartfeit condolences to

His Majesty King Hussein.

the Royal Hashemite Family and to the people of Jordan for the passing away of Her Majesty the Queen Mother Zein Al Sharaf.

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Two to 'fine tune'

THE ANNOUNCEMENT by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher in London Monday at a joint press conference with His Majesty King Hussein that Washington had finally and officially accepted a land-based system for verifying compliance with international sanctions against Iraq should be viewed as an integral part of the effort to push the Middle East peace process forward. The U.S. had in fact signalled its acceptance of such an idea in principle much earlier and in the wake of King Hussein's meeting with the ambassadors of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council a few weeks ago to serve notice that the blockade of Aqaba by a U.S.-led naval force had become unbearable politically and economically. King Hussein also served notice on the international community that Jordan could no longer play a pivotal role in the Arab-Israeli peace process as long as it was treated as a suspect by Washington.

Mr. Christopher's official endorsement of Jordan's long standing plan to replace the multinational interception force (MIF) inspection by an Aqaba-based regime manned by an independent body like Lloyds Register demonstrates that the Monarch's policy on this vexing issue has paid off. But that does not mean that Jordan was "blackmailing" any government. This was never Jordan's style in conducting its foreign policy. Rather it is a case of saying enough is enough when the nation's patience has

been pushed to the limit and its integrity unduly questioned.

What could still concern Jordan is the caveat attached to the otherwise "good news" that the Aqaba siege will be lifted afterall. The secretary of state was careful in stipulating that his government's yielding to reason is "subject to some fine tuning." This "tuning" could spell trouble unless it too remains reasonable. There is every fear that the U.S. could end up taking away with one hand what it purports to give away by the other. Should this be the case, we think that Jordan should stick to its guns and refrain from making any solemn commitments to rejoin the Washington peace talks.

As a matter of fact, no unequivocal position on the bilateral or the multilateral peace negotiations could be wisely made unless and until this "tuning" of the landbased verification scheme is resolved to the satisfaction of the country. Amman can of course declare its acceptance to participate in the projected peace talks in principle subject also to "some fine-tuning," which could be made as soon as the "fine tuning" on the Aqaba controversy is taken care of. Nothing short of this quid pro quo arrangement can in fact solve the problem to everybody's satisfaction.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

JORDANIAN Arabic dailies Wednesday commented on the passing of Her Majesty Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen mother who passed away Tuesday.

Al Ra'l said the Jordanian family was grieved by the passing

of Her Majesty Queen Zein Al Sharaf after a life embodied by caring for the Jordanian family in every respect. The Jordanian family mourns her death, remembering the great deeds she undertook during her lifetime, particularly with regard to her setting the bases for voluntary work and pushing forward activities in the field of education. Her passing is regretted by all Jordanians who will always remember her as a symbol of

Al Dustour said that a cloud of sorrow overwhelmed Jordan when news about the death of the Queen Mother spread. As we bid her farewell, the paper added, we remember her good deeds and honourable principles. We convey condolences to

the Jordanian people for this great loss.

Sawt Al Shaab said that the Queen Mother was the mother of all Jordanians who contributed through her unwavering efforts to building up modern Jordan. The late Queen instilled in her children the message of the Great Arab Revolt and dedicated her life to serving the causes of Jordan and the Arab Nation. The late Queen achieved gains for the women's causes, cared for social services and supported charity organisations. Words cannot express our sorrow for her death, said

Arab society and the forces that shape it

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

AT PRESENT a great deal of discourse is going on, though more at the informal than the formal level, about the so-called "state" of Arab society at large. The questions people raise in connection with this particular matter - at times rhetorically, at times sceptically, at times cynically, and at times innocently, boil down to whether our Arab society is ultimately advancing. is at a standstill or is in fact moving backwards.

Admittedly, such questions sound, at one level, absurd and nonsensical. For one thing, they are too general, absolute and abstract to make much sense. For another, how can one measure a process as complex and intricate as social change or development? We can easily place a germ under a microscope and study it, but what microscope are we to place society under? Furthermore, who is qualified to judge? The man in the street, the politician, the media person, the teacher, the sociologist, the economist, the engineer, the theologian or the

The other day, I was talking to a real estate agent. I found his own "theory" about the Arab Nation of today, derived from his experience in the real estate market in Amman and his observations about Amman's physical expansion and architectural designs, more coherent and persuasive than those of many of my fellow university scholars. Moreover, what do we mean by Arab "society"? Yes, there is a general umbrella and an overall Arab entity, even though it is nowadays more assumed than actual. But there are, at the same time, so many significant local varieties within the Arab World as a whole and within each individual country. Southern Egypt is as different from northern Egypt as Bahrain is from neighbouring Oman.

At another level, the questions are easy to answer. Our society, we can simply say, is at once advancing and progressing, is at a standstill, and is worsening and regressing, like any society in any part of the world at any particular moment in history. This is an undeniable sociological, anthropological and historical reality applicable as much to Plato's Greece as to Mu'awia's Arabia, Carlyle's England and Bill Clinton's America. No society is perfect. A gain in one direction seems to be at the expense of a loss in another. Emerson appears to be at the expense of a loss in another.

Emerson appears to be quite right: "Society never advances. It recedes as fast on one side as it gains on another... For everything that is given, something is taken. Society acquires new arts and loses old instincts."

Absolutely! Each society, examined in totality, is impressive in some ways, is downright dull and boring in others and is entirely intolerable in certain respects. Our Arab society is no

exception, peculiar though it may often seems. We have our own moments of success and breakthroughs, our own moments of aloofness and stupidity and our own moments of utter failure. Like other peoples. Today's Western civilisation is comfortable, benign, attractive and constructive; simultaneously, it is (to itself and to others) unbearable, cruel, repulsive and destructive. Look at what is happening in

I often avoid delving into discussions of a general nature (for the reasons stated above), even though, like many, I cannot resist the temptation. Discourse on Arab society has a seductive ring to it, in addition to being extremely important to anyone living in it of course. This is especially true during these "pregnant" times, when so much is either happening or expected to happen, politically, economically and socially. In the remaining few years of the present century, when the pangs of labour are beginning to be sharply felt, we are all holding our breath in anxious anticipation of the baby to be born. The year 2001 is rapidly approaching. What is it going to be? A mouse or a camel? An angel or a beast? Democracy or dictatorship? Freedom or oppression? Peace for all or violence for everybody? Economic prosperity or economic hardship? Arab solidarity or further Arab fragmentation? An active role for the Arab Nation in the march of human civilisation or a bewildered mess in the margins of history? The suspense is killing us; we want to know. It seems to me we have as much right (and as much justification) as Ibn Khuldoun and Ralph Waldo Emerson had to discuss, comment and theorise on the current state of Arab society. All opinions ought to be not only aired and tolerated but also heard — the housewife's as much as the scholar's, the butcher's as much as the economist's, the student's as much as the teacher's, the liberal's as much as the

My own humble hypothesis about the present and future condition of Arab society — based on my 10 years of university teaching, my observation of campus academic political and bureaucratic life, my modest relation to the media and my enthusiastic interest in public life - is this. To understand the said Arab condition, we must familiarise ourselves with the forces at work in the Arab society of today. The way I see it, there are three major forces cutting across almost all spheres and dimensions of our public and private

The first is epitomised in a minority group. Let's call it group A. It comprises people from the various walks of life whose performance is truly outstanding and admirable: mothers, fathers, neighbours, students, teachers, drivers, pedestrians, farmers, civil servants, policemen, bankers, economists, political scientists, physicians, nurses, theolo-

gians, politicians and writers among others. These are highly responsible, remarkably committed and immensely civilised members of society. My guess, and I believe it is an "educated" guess, is that their percentage in the Arab World does not exceed 20 out of 100, a percentage significantly lower than in the so-called developed countries. It is to them that we owe much of the progress or advancement our society is undergoing (I say "much" because part of the progress can be attributed to the force of history and to external influences coming from world community: others invent computers, we buy them and use them, willingly or unwillingly). The main problem with this group is that it is generally not given the chance it deserves and the location it needs from which to launch and assert itself more effectively, for a variety of reasons. Most members of this group are too polite, shy, modest, and inaggressive to make the desirable impact.

Generally, they are the unknown soldiers.

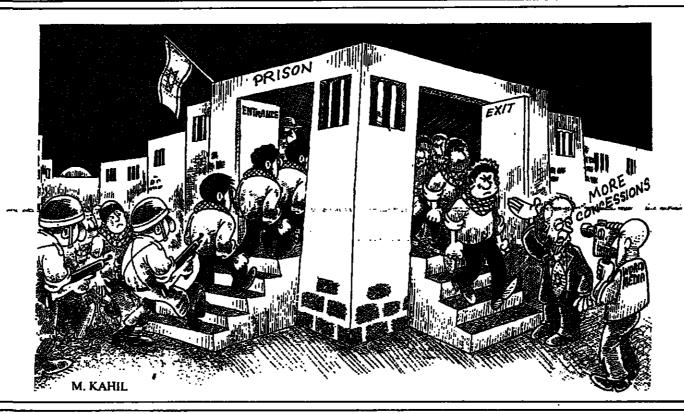
The second is represented by group B, a substantial majority — at least 60 per cent I would say. It comprises members from the same walks of life as in A. Such group does not make any important impact on society, directly that is. Its members are what we often call (at best) middle-of-the-road individuals. They are on the whole too aloof, too carefree, too disinterested, too lazy and too detached.

The third force, group C, is also a minority group, perhaps, no more than 20 per cent. However, its impact on the Arab society is both most significant and alarming. Its members are highly motivated, tremendously aggressive, remarkably shrewd, and they enjoy an unbelievable level of stamina. Generally, they are selfish, disrespectful of others, and subversive. They have very low moral values. I call them system breakers, the AIDS virus which is ferociously attacking the Arab World's immune system. Clearly, they derive much of their strength (aside from their own persent wave and of their strength (aside from their own perverse ways and degraded character traits) from the ineffectiveness of the other

The solution? We, as society, need to give group A a better chance than it is given, and we need to pay more attention to group B. Group A itself must also try to assert itself more eloquently; to express its own mind more forcefully, to fight for what it believes to be right and to make itself visible. Group B must wake up and get involved. If this happens, group C will inevitably weaken and perhaps even vanish. If this does not happen group C will continue to does not happen group continue to does not happen group group continue to does not happen group group group group group gr this does not happen group C will continue to drag our society toward the brink of disaster. If the status quo in the Arab

society remains as it is, the baby we are expecting in the early years of the coming century will most probably be a mouse.

This is my own hypothesis plain and simple. What is yours?



Authoritarian rule seen persisting in South Korea

By Moon Ihlwan

SEOUL - The abrupt removal of South Korea's

prime minister shows that authoritarian rule persists despite President Kim Young-Sam's much-publicised drive to remove the remnants of the once-dominant military dictatorship, analysts said. Last week's forced resignation of Lee Hoi-Chang, one

of South Korea's most widely respected political figures, underscores Mr. Kim's refusal to tolerate challenges to his authority, they said. Presidential aides have said

that Mr. Lee was dropped

because he challenged Mr. Kim's "sovereign power". But Back Kwang-Il, a political science professor at Inha University, said Mr. Lee was simply trying to carry out the premier's role as defined in the constitution.

The way Lee was dismissed made the civilian govern-ment look more rigid than the previous governments," he told Reuters. Mr. Lee had refused to

adopt the role of his predecessors, who merely performed ceremonial duties despite constitutional provisions that the prime minister

The shock announcement of Mr. Lee's forced resignation came shortly after the cancellation of a weekly security meeting on the North Korean nuclear prob-lem. Mr. Lee, who had said he should approve all decisions made at such meetings. was excluded from the ses-

The meeting was steered by Mr. Kim's chief secretary, although three senior cabinet ministers were among the six members. Mr. Lee said the cabinet, and not a small group of people associated with the president, should chart the main course of the government.

A day later, Mr. Kim re-proached Mr. Lee Hoi-Chang for issuing the instruction and replaced him with deputy premier and unifica-tion minister Lee Yung-Dug, a man known for his con-servative and docile image. A presidential spokesman said the move showed the

president's determination to firm up the cabinet's discipline under the presidential system. (
The Hankuk Ilbo newspap-

er, however, contrasted the move with Mr. Kim's frequent statements that the prime minister and cabinet should work with conviction and responsibility.

Jordan tackles population challenge

By Dr. Faris Ammaria

JORDAN, LIKE any other developing country, is con-fronting major population issues that are negatively affecting the development process in its human, economic and social dimensions. Such issues include a rapid increase in population growth and fertility rates, unemployment and imbalances in geographic distribution of the population as a result of the uncontrolled local migration and the great influx of Jordanian returnees from Kuwait during the Gulf crisis. These issues have added a continuous pressure on the already exhausted national expenditures on social services, education and health.

Jordan believes that tackling population challenges lies mainly within the responsibilities of each state and government which should construct its own national policy and strategy for population. National popula-tion policy is a compendium of direct and indirect set of procedures and criteria de-

fined and designed by govreligion of society. ernment and nongovernmental organisations and adopted by the state. It Effecting a positive change in the socio-economic dimension of population. seeks to direct population be-Emphasising the importance of the role of nonhaviour in relation to various demographic variables such as fertility, mortality and governmental and voluntary migration with the aim of organisations in population achieving a synergy between activities and programmes. population growth rate and Reducing the rate of migration from rural to urban available resources within society. It also seeks to affect areas as it is an essential a positive change in geogfactor for improving geographic distribution of popularaphic distribution of popula-

affluence and well-being of Within this context, I would like to reiterate Jordan's position through the following elements, the foundation of the national policy on population:

tion that would lead to the

Reducing the level of demographic elements such as fertility, mortality and migra-

Creating a synergy be-tween population growth and economic, social and environmental resources. Asserting the rights of parents in choosing the number

of children according to the

velopment and enhancement

of women. Women and development have become a major priority of the national population policy of the country, and work has intensified to reduce further illiteracy among women, in-crease the number of women joining secondary education, increase women's participa-

tion in the labour forces and

Highlighting the import-

Enhancing the status of

Jordan attaches great value

to the importance of the de-

ance of preserving the health

of mothers and infants.

other economic activities, reduce unemployment among women, and raise the level of women's participation in political life. In this regard, I would like to note that in the latest parliamentary elections, a woman was elected to the Lower House. Two other women have been appointed at the Upper House. Jordan has one of the lowest illiteracy rates among women in the

Population is an important and vital element of sustainable development. Human integrity and well-being, coupled with environment, integrity and economic efficiency are the basic variables that constitute sustainable development.

The writer is an adviser to the government on economic and environmental affairs. The above is based on a speech he gave at a meeting of the preparatory committee for the International Conference on Population and Development, which took place in New York.

Afghans look to U.N. to end years of civil war

By Jane Macartney

HERAT, Afghanistan — "In the past the United Nations chose to leave Afghanistan at a crucial time. Will this mission also leave us in the lurch?" Afghan woman teacher Aziza wanted to

"Inshallah (God willing) was the reply from U.N. special envoy Mahmoud Mestiri, who is this month leading a peace caravan

around Afghanistan. Mr. Mestiri's mission aims to end two years of internecine war among rival factions in the Islamic coalition government that has accelerated the destruction of a country already reeling from 13 years of Soviet occupation and civil

Expectations of the United

Nations are high.
Thousands lined the streets to welcome Mr. Mestiri to the northern city of Mazar-I-Sharif, powerbase of ex-Communist warlord General Abdul Rashid Dostum, tossing poppies at his car and brandishing placards reading "no war, we want peace." Mr. Dostum, his forces

allied with the radical Hezb-

I-Islami group of Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar against President Burhanuddin Rabbani in the struggle for power in Kabul, was eager to show his enthusiasm for the United Nations. Blackbearded horsemen in Mr. Dostum's garrison headquarters vied for the honour of showing Mr. Mestiri a round of Buzkashi, a game resembling soccer on horseback in which the aim is to wrestle the headless carcass of a goat from mounted opponents and to fling it into a

circle marked by chalk. Students at Mazar-I-Sharif's Balkh University said they were confident the United Nations would stop the fighting in Kabul, collect the thousands of heavy weapons from guerrilla hands and supervise elections.

"We have expectations from you and our expecta-tions are high," Aziza told Mr. Mestiri in a meeting in the western city of Herat.

Diplomats and even U.N. officials acknowledge privately that Afghans may be deeply disappointed if they invest high hopes in the U.N. peace mission.

"I'm nervous that nothing will come of this and then there will be a backlash against the U.N.." one offi-

cial said privately. In August 1992, as Aziza emerged briefly from Purdah to remind Mr. Mestiri, the United Nations evacuated Kabul when the city came under a blistering rocket and artillery bombardment by

Mr. Hekmatyar.
The United Nations has yet

to reestablish a permanent presence in a capital where rockets are a daily hazard. Funding diminishes each year as international donors become incréasingly reluctant to invest in a land where fighting is the order of the

Security considerations lost on ordinary Afghans in Kabul who have nowhere else to run and regard the U.N. withdrawal as an aban-

As the bloody battle for supremacy in Kabul drags into a third year, leaving 11,000 dead since the guerrillas took power in April 1992, Afghans say they have little choice but to pin their hopes on some form of U.N. intervention.

Cities such as Mazar-I-Sharif and Herat are prospering from months of peace, but fears linger that the lack of a ceasefire in Kabul threatens their fragile order... Armed men are visible

Mr. Dostum receives guests in Mazar-I-Sharif at his headquarters in the fort of war, a rambling mud stronghold built in the late 19th century.

Looking slightly ill at ease

in a business suit, the ex-Communist militia general proudly showed off 32 jet fighters to Mr. Mestiri at his main Shibarghan air base. Mr. Dostum's show of might was matched in Herat where rival governor Ismail Khan paraded one-legged veterans on crutches, U.S.made Stinger missiles, rocket launchers mounted on camels and dozens of Soviet-made tanks on the second anniversary of the fall of the ancient city to the mujabi-

Commandoes killed, skin-ned and ate raw snakes in front of the reviewing stand. SU-22 jets skimmed the heads of the crowd.

"This is a preliminary step by the U.N.," Mr. Khan, an ally of Mr. Rabbani, said after meeting the mission.

Mr, Khan, a veteran guerrilla commander during 13 years of jihad against the former Soviet-backed gov-ernment, did not appear impatient for a quick end to the fighting in Kabul that kills.

several people each day. (
Mr. Mestiri disagreed: "I have found that time is not very important in Afghanistan... But time is important

for us." A week earlier, Mr. Mestiri identified the biggest problem facing his mission, the lust for power that motivates the battle among the

Published Every Thursday

Ballooning — a new way to discover Jordan

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Some of us have experienced the wonders of Wadi Rum by moving around on foot. horseback, camel or cars. We were awed by the magnificent landscape of pinkish rocky mountains eroded by centuries of nature's elements, yet craggy and with steep slopes that delight the mountaineers.

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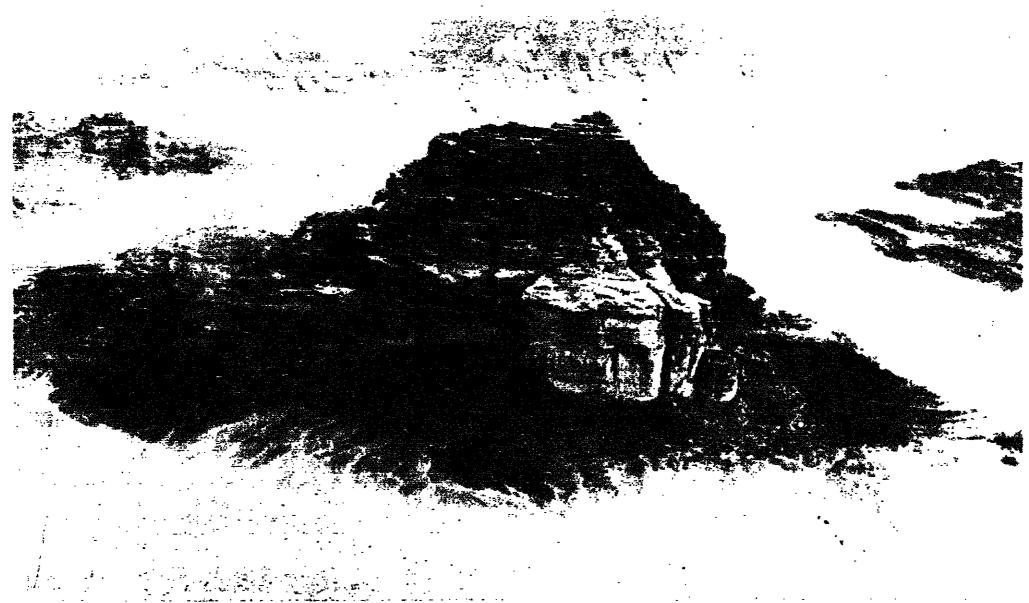
Imagine now seeing all this marvelous scenery while soaring high in the sky. One can do it by flying a balloon, an adventure made possible by the Jordan Tourism Invest-ments (JTI) and Virgin Airship and Balloons of England.

One clear Thursday morning, with blue skies and not one gust of wind, I made this unforgettable trip over Wadi Rum in a balloon flying the colours of our airline, Royal Jordanian.

"Jump aboard and let us start the trip," Captain Graham Connolly, a professional balloonist with years of experience as an aircraft and balloon pilot, told us after preparations for take off. The flames, like a dragon spitting fire. were hissing, breaking the silence of the early morning.

The padded basket attached to the balloon, (which was to be our flight cabin) was held to the ground by two trainees and ready for us to hop in. The eight of us. maximum capacity, went aboard and the balloon

started to slowly rise to



The beauty of Wadi Rum as seen from the balloon in the early hours of the morning (Photo by Rana Husseini)

the sky. Half an hour later, at 3,000 feet, our cruise altitude, the breeze was gently caressing our

faces and the silence was interrupted only by the droning of the flames heating the air to keep us

Under us, the red dunes of the Wadi and the softly curved mountains were interrupted by bushes among which sheep were unperturbedly grazing. The bucolic atmosphere

is indeed "history in the making", as Capt. Connolly put it, bringing one back in time to a more

peaceful era in the existhumankind. ence of Balloons are creatures of the sky and are made to

fly freely and aimlessly in the atmosphere," said the captain, adding: "You do not have to be a bird to fly in the sky, the balloon is there to make your wishes come true.

And like birds we felt indeed up there, carefree and clated, wishing that the trip would never come to an end.

But, like all good things in life, our flight had to come to an end. We slowly started losing altitude and the round bird calmly came to test on the ground gliding on a gently slope of

"We do not have to experience the risk hikers go through climbing the mountain. The mountain is there for us to see and enjoy with no risks," said the captain. "Besides, it is the safest flying method around, and passengers are fully insured as in most airlines.

The exhibitating adven-ture costs JD 35 per hour and JD 40 for half an hour for Jordanians and for foreieners JD 110 and JD 65 respectively

Trips are organised dasly, early in the morning and late in the afternoon, when "winds are gentle and the view is most remarkable."

Capt. Connolly is cur-rently training three Jordanian pilots and three copilots. They are expected to take over their jobs in one year's time.

The flying season is April through June and September through De-

As for the experience, it is a wonderful way of discovering the beauty of our country.

Our artists need to have a decent life too

By Mohammad Masharida

The "dictatorship of geography" was, no doubt, behind definition of the state's principled policies, as well as Jordan's social, cultural and economic structure.

Geography is also responsible for keeping the Kingdom surrounded by certan regimes and states that can by no means accept any form of rule not catering to their own taste nearby, as they usually threaten with their tribal mentality to impose their own will.

This is clearly manifested in the neighbouring regimes' stand towards Jorcan at the official, political and social levels concerning various questions. This has no doubt forced Jordan tr take meticulous care in handling

matters considered sensitive to its neighbours. Only once did Jerdan try to deal with matters differently — during the Gulf crisis — with the result that it brought upor itself the wrath and the curse of these neighbours.

As a result, our people have been paying a heavy price in the form of siege, humiliation and boycott. Also as a consequence, a large number of Jordanian artists who were ble to compete with their Egyptian and Syrian counteparts in the 1970s and 1980s are now subjected to collective punishment.

During the Gulf War, the Jordanian Artists Association (JAA) naturally supported the official and national Jordanian stand but it is now paying the price for Abbadi said.

He says "our stand regarding the Gulf crisis has brought about a decline in the Jordanian standard of living and has been responsible for our humiliation," Abbadi said. "The majority of Jordanian artists are now unemployed and some have been forced to sell their furniture for survival."

AMMAN CULTURAL PULSE

Artists surely hope that the situation would improve and the attitude of the neighbouring regime would change after re-examining their policies and would once again accept the Jordanian artists' works, he added. Jordanian artist and television producer Mohammad Barmawi said to date nothing has changed despite promises made at the official level here. He said officials had promised to deal with the ordeal of the Jordanian artists and help ensure for them the minimum level of

decent living until the situation improves but nothing

happened as yet.

Abbadi and Barmawi are in agreement that the state which owns and operates the media for television and the artists who have no access to the markets of the neighbouring countries under the current circumstances. The state is also responsible in this regard since it does not allow the private sector to own and operate commercial television stations which could absorb part of the artists' work.

We demand that the state interfere on two fronts," Abbadi said. "First he said financing local television drama series since local production firms tend to shun entering into such ventures under the present circumstances.

"Such a move can help find employment for many qualified artists and actors and so save them from the humiliation of poverty and decline," Abbadi said.

He stresses that the state has the capability and the potential to finance television production. This is clear from the fact that the state has been in the practice of spending \$100,000 on a single artistic function, a sum that could finance the production of three local televi-

sion series of high quality. Secondly, Abbadi called on the government to do something to amend current regulations and legislations with the aim of protecting the rights and the interests of the Jordanian artists.

He said the government could change the present situation in which preference is given to the Egyptian and Syria television series which are normally bought at rates three times more than those paid for local

The government can stop employing artists and actors from neighbouring Arab states under the pretext that this is being done in response to conditions and terms required by these countries that later import and screen Jordanian television series.

It should be noted here that Information Minister Jawad Anani, who last Thursday heard some of the complaints from the Jordanian artists, has committed himself to ensuring the allocation of JD 1 million to finance the production of 10 Jordanian television series

Mr. Anani also promised to put forth the artists plight at a cabinet meeting and advocate their just cause. Barmawi, who is also JAA vice-president, believes that the major help that could come from the government to the artists lies in speeding up the implementation of a new artists association law because the JAA and its regulations constitute the best guarantee for the artists' survival and ensures the artists' careers.

From the eye of an expatriate

By Claire Davies

Jordan has been the subject of an extensive survey to find out what xpatriates living here really think of the country in which they are based, their adaptation to a different culture, the high points and the disappointments. Over one hundred expatriates were contacted originating rom twelve different countries though almost 50 per cent of those questioned were of British nationality. The ratio of women to men respondants was 3:2, and altiough the survey included some expatriates permanently resident in the country through marriage, the average period of time expatriates were spending in the countr was between 2-4 years. 20 per cent of respondans had been sent to Jordan by their company or government, the majority having taken a personal decision to work abroad - seeking a combination of higher wiges, better career prospects, tourism and

Expatrates the world over often sieze the opportunity of being based in a foreign land to travel sometimes extensivity, in the region in which they are based. Expatrises in Jordan are no different. The top-ranking holiday lestination for these people is Syria (despite the high cot of entry visa's for nationalities such as the British in JD 37). Fourty six per cent of respondants had eitler already visited or had the intention of visiting the country, beating Egypt into second place with 37 per cent. Obviously, proximity (it is only 4 hours by car from Amman to Damascus) and, in general, the cheaper cost of living on the other side of the border are

Egot, given its vastly greater self-promotion in the attracive incentives. tourism industry and long-established popularity scores surpraingly low, perhaps due to the highly publicised attracts on tourists by terrorist groups over the past year. Lebnon appears to be slowly shrugging off its war-torn

reputation as a terrorist haven (albeit a Western opinion), and enticing visitors back - one third of respondants have already visited or intend to visit the country. Saudi Arabia, alongside Kuwait, finds itself at the bottom of the pile with just 11 per cent. On further examination, many of those questioned cited the restrictions on freedom for women as their prime reason for not wishing to visit the Gulf.

The Western media is often accused of giving the Middle East a bad press and although Jordan's popularity as a tourist destination appears to be on the increase, relatively few Westerners have experienced the lifestyle first hand. With this in mind, respondants were asked what they considered to be common misconceptions, in their home countries, about Jordan as a country and the lifestyle led within.

Discussion of weather conditions must be as close to British hearts as the traditional "English cuppa." Given the predominantly British slant on the survey one should not be surprised therefore to see the climate featuring prominantly in this list. Seventy five per cent respondants felt that their fellow countrymen, no doubt shivering under drizzly skies back home, believed temperatures rarely, if ever, dipped below 30 degrees Centigrade. (If only it were true).

If the tourist authorities here are pleased at that bit of news, the next may provide food for thought - Almost 50 per cent of those questioned thought that outsiders perceived Jordan to be "politically unstable" and a dangerous country to visit; a perception which could no doubt be equally applied to a whole group of countries in this region. Other perceived misconceptions were concerned principally with the confusion of Jordan with countries in the Gulf. Commonly cited misconceptions included: Oil-rich, illegal to drink, veils for women obligatory, lack of women's rights, and only desert

Relatively few expatriates appear to socialise in principally Jordanian circles, expatriates in Jordan through marriage to a Jordanian understandably accounting for the majority of this number. The bulk of expatriates tend to mix with fellow countrymen and other expatriates who's idea of entertainment and, perhaps more importantly, language is the same as their own. Of those questioned only 5 per cent claimed to be fluent in Arabic and whilst 30 per cent professed to have basic communication skills, only a quarter of those questioned were taking lessons. An indication perhaps of the lack of social and also business necessity, given the high standard of English spoken by many Jorda-

Despite the lack of understanding of the Arabic language, 43 per cent of respondants purported to possess a good understanding of Islam, with another 45 per cent wishing to build on their current awareness.

Turning to another topic, Western countries are often seen to be pro-Israeli and media reports regarding the Palestinian struggle biased in Israel's favour. In support of this view, over 20 per cent of respondants admitted that their understanding of the Palestinian issue was what they now consider to have been inaccurate prior to coming to Jordan. Another 50 per cent had only a vague understanding of the issues involved, however did consider this understanding to be accurate.

As regards the likelihood of success in the Middle East peace talks, there were no surprises - expatriates are split, fairly predictably so, fifty-fifty on the chances

Expatriates were also asked to give their opinion on a scale of 1-5, (1 being excellent and 5 poor), of certain facilities and services in Jordan. Out in front by a long way was the taxi service - cheap, reliable, friendly, everywhere when you need them, and who minds the odd crash every now and then at that price? At the other

end of the spectrum, two-thirds of respondants find the entertainments available in Amman i.e. concerts, theatre, cinema, etc. either unsatisfactory or poor. This could be a direct result of the greater cultural emphasis on family and home life here than in the West, and the relative lack of expectations as regards entertainment outside the home. Restaurants, however, seem to please the expatriates, the reasonable prices and wide variety from which to choose making their frequentation a popular evening out.

Whilst sports facilities and public transport were awarded the ubiquitous "OK", tourism facilities received the thumbs down. Expatriates may be pleased to hear that the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities has recently prepared a detailed study on a new strategy to promote internal and external tourism in Jordan. Currently however, access to some tourist sites can be a problem without the use of private transport, no doubt due to 'e prevalance of organised tour buses. This, of cours., ... is no reflection on the quality of sites which can be visited — Petra is frequently described as "awesome, beautiful, out of this world" and visitors are often fortunate enough to have such delights to themselves — barring the odd camel, goat herder or bedouin trying to sell the all-important souvenirs.

Jordan is a beautiful country. There is much diversity and the majority of expatriates live happily within the much-respected Arab culture. But now for the crunch question - Expatriates were asked: "Given the opportunity and career prospects to remain in Jordan indefinitely, would you stay?" Only 10 per cent answered has." I guess this just goes to prove that age-old saying, "there's no place like home."

The writer is a freelance journalist based in London. She recently ended a three-month stay in Jordan. Ms. Davies contributed the above article to the Jordan Times.

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By Jean-Claude Elias

I was recently given a copy of a language translation programme for personal computers (PC). The friend who gave it to me was asking whether I could test and evaluate the said software.

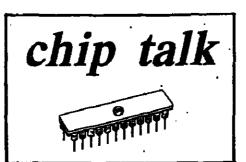
Knowing that even on large mainframe computers there is nothing such as a good translation software (not yet at least), I had all the reasons to be sceptical about the reality of this product on a humble PC. Nevertheless, having in hand five small floppy disks that promised to translate any text from English to French or from English to German, in both directions, I could not but rush home and try it for myself on my PC.

I was right. It did not take long to find that the programme doesn't provide a translation good enough to be seriously used. It is just a little better than the word-to-word translation available on small hand held machines — the ones that look like pocket calculators.

The software though is fun to use. First you specify the language to translate from and the one to translate to. Then you type in a text, as in a regular word processor and ask the programme to start the translation. It takes only three or four seconds to "translate" a 60-word paragraph on a 486-class computer.

The final result however, is disappointing. The system doesn't take into consideration any of the language particularities nor the idioms. It does not analyse the context of the sentence (its meaning). It does however, follow the simple syntax and grammar rules like plurals, gender, inversion of adjectives and nouns, etc... In a specific case it made a gross error — translating from English to French, it added an extra "e" to "superbe", making it "superbee" for the feminine!

In the best case, such a translation will give a very rough idea of the meaning of the source language. In the worst, it could be totally misleading. In no case, the obtained result can be used in real life, whatever the purpose of the operation. The system is hopeless even in very simple cases like, for instance, giving instructions



to a tourist. For decades now, analysts and programmers have been desperately trying to design a perfect translation software. Solving the problem means fightigeat three different levels: processing power or speed, data storage and finding the right algorithms or the methods of programming. Today's mainframes provide more than enough power and disk storage for this purpose. The complexity of the algorithms however is such that even with huge processing power and data storage, the result

The major difficulty comes from the above mentioned points - idioms, context, etc... These elements do not obey definable rules.

They are therefore, difficult if not impossible to translate. Making the computer memorise all the possible variations and idiomatic expressions is tantamount to teaching a person a foreign language. Which is exactly the new approach analysts are taking to the

Artificial Intelligence, a computer subject everybody was talking about in the eighties, was supposed to bring answers to "non-linear" problems like language translation. So far it didn't. Even if it does, in the near future, computers will not be able to provide translations with the quality of that of a human being. A writer (a translator is a writer, agreed?) has a style, a reflection of his personality and his culture. What personality, what culture does a computer have?

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

TANTALISING FACTS

- In 1894 there were only four automobiles in the United States.
- It is impossible to sneeze when both eyes are open.
- Voltaire drank seventy cups of coffee every day. - The Irish language is the most difficult language to
- · For no apparent reason, men get appendicitis more often than women.
- A great percentage of British women have thumb swelling and inflammation when they reach the age

LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

I have no money. Can you lend me some? Laysa laday fulus. Hal tastati' an takridani baadan

- Sorry, I think one dinar won't do.
- Assif, azonno anna dinaran wahidan la yakfi. — Hussein rarely visits you, doesn't he?
- Kallama yazooroka Hussein, alaysa kazalik? Howa da'iman mashghool. He's always busy.
- Did you see your uncle? Hai ra'ayta ammak?
- We were at his house yesterday.
- Konna fee baitihi ams. I want two dollars and a half, please.
- Oreed dolarain wa nisf, law samaht. — I'm bankrupt. Ana muflis.
- How many books do you have? Kam kitaban ma'aka?
- I've five books and a pen. Indi khamsat kotob wa kalam.
- What do you eat in the morning? Maza ta'kol fis-sabah?
- I eat some bread, butter and jam.
- Aakoi baadan minal khobz, waz-zubda wal-murabba. — Are these eggs fresh? Hal hazal bayd tazij?
- We don't sell bad eggs. Nahnu la nabi' baydan fasidan.

JOKES

- What's the difference between a hill and a pill? — One goes up and the other goes down.
- * * * * *
- What are the largest ants in the world? - Eleph-ants.
 - * * * * *
- Doctor: How's your husband's lumbago? Wife: Not too good. I rubbed his back with whisky

* * * * *

like you told me to and he broke his neck trying to

- Three biscuits were crossing the road when the first one was knocked down and then a second was knocked down. What did the third biscuit say as he reached the pavement in safety?
 - Crumbs!

lick it off!

* * * * *

■ Postman: Is this letter for you, sir? The name is all smudged.

- Man: No. my name is Allsop.
- How do you do?
- Do what?

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

- 1. What is the origin of the Marathon?
- 2. Who was known as "the king over the water"?
- 3. Why don't men have tails?
- 4. What is an accentor? A briard?
- 5. Which European language has the largest vocabul-

YOUR DREAMS INTERPRETED

■ BOOKS: You can anticipate slow but steady progress and a calm pleasant life ahead if books were the main feature of your dream.

* * * * *

■ DOVE: White doves signify happy domestic affairs and/or a peaceful solution to any agreements which may be troubling you. A flock of doves predicts sudden travel or the return of an old friend from a distance. The cooing of doves promises reciprocal. love, but the voice of a turtledove heralds some approaching sadness.

* * * * *

■ EXAMINATION: The classic daddy of obstacle dreams with a classic simplicity of meaning. If you failed the examination, the dream is telling you that your ambitions are beyond your ability and you would benefit from a change of goal. However, if you passed the exam easily or it presented no major problem to you, it predicts comfortable achievement of all your hopes.

(1) FIND THE WORD

Can you supply letters in the places indicated by the 'X' so that the same seven-lettered word may be read

D	X	X	X	X	X	D
X	X				X	X
X		X		X		X
X			X			X
X		X		X		X
X	X				X	X
D	X	X	X	X	X	D
* *	##				•	

(2) MISSING LETTERS

By inserting the letter G thirteen times it is possible to make the following collection of letters into a reasonable sentence. What is this sentence?

ARIMACINAROYLEISLE. SSARAVATINTHANAILI NIOLO

* * * * *

(3) Which of these is the odd one out?

Cove, point, gulf, bay, bight, inlet?

* * * * *

(4) Can you think of a single-word anagram of MON-

Water, water nowhere

By E. Yaghi

One night on April 16, just before the break of dawn, near a mountain circle, a water pipe which serviced a four storey building, broke. The precious liquid gushed out and shot up higher than a camel's eye almost touching the electrical wires langing above like a geyser. Though the landlord of the property concerned whose line it was that broke promptly notified the proper water authorities, no one came to shut off the flow of water until the next day and meanwhile, the pipe which gridled a busy street, continued to spurt water into the air to the disturbance of drivers and pedestrians alike.

Finally, those alert water employees, after continuous phone calls from the concerned landlord, sent a group of workers out to fix the problem pipe. Happily, the landlord rushed out to greet the labourers and in his glee, bought soft drinks for them all. Little did he realise that the pipe wasn't being fixed after all, but being cut off forever. Later that night when he returned to the workers, he asked them exactly why they seemed to be severing the line instead of mending it. He was assured: "Don't worry, sir, although we're tying off this line, we are going to install a new one for you up the street.'

Slightly cynical, the landlord returned to his home a bit disgruntled and waited. Then he waited some more and waited and waited and waited for the water authority to come and put for him a line to replace the one that they had so easily shut. Yet not wanting to remain idle about the issue, he tried on many occasions to contact the Water Department. Often, their line was busy, and sometimes, no one answered at all inspite of the fact that the department is open 24 hours, day and night. On frequent occasions, an employee would say without bothering or waiting to hear the landlord's address, "sure, we'll have someone out there in an hour or so," just to get rid of him.

Of course, no one came, ever. The old line remained severed and no new supply of water was issued, denying four floors or renters and the landlord and his family any means of securing water that was due them not only as taxpayers but as citizens of a country that owes its existence to the value of its people. The line had been a bother for some time. Initially, it was dug too close beneath the surface of the street and because it was situated in an area of constant traffic, the line broke every so often. Workers would be sent out to repair the damage only to have the same problem occur again and

again. Hence, when the line was severed, it solved the problem of water leakage but neglected all those who depended on the supply. It is sort of like saying, "the operation was a success, but the patient died!"

It's not a pretty picture to paint about those who are employed at the Water Department, but unfortunately, it's true. After promises of immediate supply, the denied victims of a secured water line waited and waited and waited some more. Where is the water man who looks after his sheep? Why, he is under the haystack, fast asleep! The cow's in the meadow, the sheep's in the corn and the ones who desperately need water are all

One week later, after many promises and even after this fantastic statement by one employee who had the nerve to declare, "oh, are you the one that the new line was being dug for? (This was a different line that the landlord had nothing at all to do with) You could be jailed for this!"

Whereas the landlord articulated as clearly as his nerves would allow: "Will you please let me get a word in? First of all, I have nothing to do with this line you were digging further up the street and that's your business to know who you are putting a line for. Second of all, my line was cut off by your department and I've not had water since April 17. I have four floors of renters who have had no water at all for a week. The severance of the line is not my fault but yours because in the first place, it was not placed properly in the street. The entire affair is one of mismanagement, disorganisation and employees who care nothing about the people they are paid to serve."

Within this week without water, temperatures soared to 36 degrees. Wild winds blew red dirt which covered the city. The landlord's stairs were blanketed with a thick layer of dirt. There was no water at all and some small children, one a baby, depend on a supply of the essence of life nowhere to be found.

But even in true stories which prove stranger than fiction, miracles can happen so at 12 midnight not long after this article was begun, some labourers appeared on the scene to re-dig a hole in the street where the landlord's line had been amputated and re-connected. his old line back to him once again. There remains a deep scar cutting across the street where cars have to slow down to pass over, causing traffic congestion, but at least there in one building of occupants who dare not complain for at last they have water once again.

Making waves: Radio DJs stir debate over on-air antics

NEW YORK (AP) — A St. Louis radio station airs phone messages believed to be a TV weatherman talking about a love affair. A day later, he dies in a fiery plane crash that appears to be a suicide.

A Chicago disc jockey suggests to listeners that a TV anchorwoman - and recent widow - is pregnant by a Chicago Bulls player. ge reluses to dismiss her defamation lawsuit.

A Texas radio station announces it has hidden money in Fort Worth's library. Hundreds storm the building, tearing out pages. tossing books on the floor.

Responsible radio? At a time when New York disc jockey Howard Stern wins fame, fortune and great ratings with outrageous comments about sex and other taboo subjects, the antics of lesser-known disc jockeys are raising questions, too, about what can - and should be uttered on public airwaves.

In cases such as the recent library ransacking, it's simply a promotion gone amok. In instances such as last month's tragedy in St. Louis, it's a trickier issue the privacy rights of public personalities.

"It's really difficult because a public figure will take all the positive publicity they can get, take you into their homes, show you their furniture and tell you their hobbies, but when they do something wrong,

they want to slam the door," argues Bill Viands. general manager at WKBQ in St. Louis, which aired the weatherman's tape. "You can't have it both ways."

cause "the public has come Jim Hoyt, a broad

rules have changed. "Stations are attempting to push the kind of generally accepted format further," he said. "I think the stations may be playing with fire." One questionable incident arose on March 22

was making allegations; Mr. Richards didn't accept sta-

TV tabloid journalism.

to expect... the intrusive type of coverage on peojournalism professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, agrees that the

when WKBQ morning

drive DJs Steve Shannon and D.C. Chymes interviewed a woman named Donna Henry. She had secured a protective court order, claiming St. Louis TV weatherman Bob Richards was harassing her after she broke off an affair.

Those charges, denied by Mr. Richards, were reported in the news media. She then played for the DJs answering machine tapes, one in which a man she identified as the married Richards declared his love for her. Shannon and Chymes repeatedly said she

tion offers to respond.

Guy Phillips, & St. Louis broadcaster and Mr. Richards' friend, said the weatherman was francic afterward, saying his career was over. Shortly after midnight.

Mr. Richards private plane crashed. The crash is being investigated, but no mecha-Viands says, also has altered the landscape benical problems have been detected. Mr. Phillips and others believe it was a "Did they have a right to

run the woman's interview?" Mr. Phillips asked. "Yes. Did they have a right to run the tape? Yes. Is it the right thing to do? No. ... They didn't kill Bob Richards, but I think they were some sort of catalyst in his behaviour.

This isn't the first imbroglio involving Mr. Shannon and Mr. Chymes. They were fired last May for an on-air racial slur. They took a sensitivity course and were rehired by new management in January.

Their boss said they acted responsibly in this latest incident and treated Mr. Henry as a straightforward, serious interview.

Mr. Chymes said he wouldn't have handled the interview differently, but added that "if we were to know that we could have done anything or not done anything, we would have — but nobody knew that." In Chicago, an \$8 million

lawsuit is pending against WBBM-FM's Joe Bohannon, who is accused of

broadcasting a false rumour last year about the paternity of the unborn child of Joan Esposito, a news anchor for WMAQ-TV.

Howard Pearl, Ms. Espe-sito's attorney, said the jockey later signed an davit stating he knew it a baseless rumour. A judge in February refused to dismiss the case.

While those cases in DJs have angered others with promotions such as the Fort Worth incident, where KYNG-FM listeners were old money was hidden in the library stacks.

Programme director Dan Pearman said the intent to encourage reading by offering \$100, but library spokeswoman Marsha Anderson said some of the 800 eople who stormed the building said they heard it was up to \$10,000.
About 100 books were

destrived and thousands others tossed about in the feveris hunt for dollars, Mrs. Inderson said. The station has promised to make mends, including paying for the damaged books and donating \$10,000 for other materials.

The Fideral Communica-

tions Commission in 1992 addressed more dangerous pranks, approving a \$25,000 fine for all hoax involving a crime o catastrophe. A fake report of a nuclear attack by a St. Louis radio. station during the Gulf War helped prolipt the ruling

Japan diners eyeball latest lad

By Olivier Fabre Reuter

TOKYO - Japanese trendsetters say it lowers blood pressure, clears the skin and stimulates the little grey cells. Diehard gourmets say tunafish eyeball is simply

scrumptious. Japan has a wide variety of exotic fish dishes but until very recently the average Japanese avoided looking this particular delicacy in the eve. An exception were fishermen, who traditionally tossed eyeballs into their soup.

Then, television began to hype the health benefits of docosahexaeonic acid (DHA), a natural substance purportedly good for pre-

number of other allments. Fish-industry nutritionists said DHA existed in relative abundance behind the

retina of a fish eye. They said tests had shown mice injected with DHA extracted from tuna eyeballs could remember the way through a maze far better than their acid-dep-

rived brethren. Now that humans, too, have woken up to the merits of this long-shunned food, it is being canned and sold at hefty premium in classy department stores around

"It's only recently and thanks to the media hype that the average Japanese

cholesterol build-up, and a has taken notice of tuna eyeballs." said Michiyo Motomura, president of gourmet book publisher Nihon Shokuhin Shuppansha. "But personally I've al-

ways eaten the eyeballs of any fish first. It's the tastiest part." the publisher said. Of the five Japanese companies processing and sell-ing tuna eyeballs, Maruni Suisan, a specialist tunafish

company, said it helped pioneer the new food fad. "But I hadn't realised how interested people would be in tuna eyeballs till these reports came out." said Akira Nimura, the company's canning depart-

ment chief. Maruni Suisan boils the

preserves they whole, said Mr. Nimura: "Customers would complin if they opened the tils and what they saw didn't look, like eyeballs.

At market, the raw product sells for 20 to 300 year (\$2 to \$3) appear. Once tinned and set is the shell-aloneside. alongside cavial and fole gras, the same deball can fetch nearly 1.50 yen (\$15).

Mr. Nimura stimutes that on average ovy 10,000 big-eyed tunafish the with the most uccufed orbs — go on we easily month at Tokyo's wolcsus. fish market.

Unfortunately ver fish have only one pair deyes



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Sought

Depardieu biography recounts actor's rise from hardship

By Marilyn August The Associated Press

PARIS - Born to an illiterate drunk and a discontented woman who tried to abort him with a knitting needle, Gerard Depardieu overcame neglect, poverty and a humiliating speech impediment to become one of France's greatest film stars.

A bearlike man with boundless energy, Depardieu emerges in a new biography as a survivor, an endearingly complex man who grabbed misfortune

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and crafted it into genius. "Depardieu" is a collaborative biography by Paul Chutkow. "Gerard cooperated ful-

ly, but he did not have the right of approval and he did not earn a cent." Mr. Chutkow said in a telephone interview. "I had carte blanche. He never interfered and only read the manuscript once it was completed.

The two spent hundreds of hours together at Depardieu's home outside Paris and on location in exotic spots across the globe. Mr. Chutkow, a former

Associated Press who spent 12 years in Paris, interviewed dozens of family members, close friends. film directors, fellow actors - even Dr. Alfred Tomatis, who diagnosed a severe hearing problem and helped Depardieu regain language skills after they broke

correspondent for the

Mr. Chutkow presents Depardien as multifaceted man: A gifted actor with 90 films to his credit since 1971; a 250-pound (112-kilogramme) gastronome who selects his own freerange chickens live on the farm; a wine lover who produces his own vintage.

The book's publication here in French in early March was a major event, despite a lukewarm reception from some critics. "This is not a biography

for movie-lovers." wrote Jerome Garcin in the weekly Evenement Du Jeudi. "It does not satisfy our curiosity about Depardieu's formulative relationships with people like (Marguerite) Duras, (Maurice) Pialat, Bertrand (Blier), (Claude) Berri. ... The au-

thor merely wanted to hold



Gerard Depardieu

up a mirror in front of Depardieu, an actor he admires and who doesn't much like himself, so he can

see himself, head high, halfway through his fabulous

The star who symbolises

French cinema was weaned on American culture in Chateauroux, a backwater town in central France that was still reeling from Nazi occupation, rationing and economic depression when Depardieu was born there

In 1951, Chateauroux became home to a NATO base that later swelled to accommodate 12,000 GIS and their families. Depardieu chewed juicy fruit gum, beebopped to the rhythms of Elvis Presley and Chubby Checker, snacked on burgers and milkshakes, and adopted James Dean and Marlon Brando as heroes.

He also brushed with delinquency — trafficking in ration cards and befriending young prostitutes working the base.

Things at home were grim. Gerard's father. Dede, was a heavy-drinking ironworker who was often unemployed. Lilette, his mother, dreamed about travelling to exotic places and blamed Gerard, her third child, for clipping her wings.
They were not evil peo-

ple, just ignorant, Mr.

Chutkow writes.

"Their family communication was generally a chaotic rumble of grunts. aborted thoughts, stifled feelings and yelling," Mr. Chutkow writes.

Once the angry shouting subsided, the tension remained. The house, Depardieu later said, was ruled by "the law of silence."

He retreated into a protective shell and ended up tongue-tied by the age of 6 - just about the time Lilette confessed she never wanted him in the first place. One day, in a fit of rage, she told him she had tried to end the pregnancy with a knitting needle.

"That was the defining shock of his childhood, Mr. Chutkow said. "But he recovers from everything and turns it into emotional resources for his craft. That's his brilliance."

Depardieu told Mr. Chutkow he had nightmares for years about knitting needles, concluding that, "if I can survive those knitting needles. I can survive anything."

Depardieu was happy that the book rectified misconceptions about his child-

hood.
"I was really a solitary child... But I never said I was unhappy," he was quoted as saying in the weekly Evenement Du Jeudi. "Just the opposite, I was very lucky to be born into a poor, illiterate and medievallike tamily because there were no taboos. I was born free, free to invent

who I wanted to be." "Depardieu" devotes 34 pages to the actor's dispute with Time magazine in 1991 over his alleged confession that he went along on a gang rape at age 9.

Mr. Chutkow obtained a transcript of the original French interview and compared it to the English translation upon which the Time article was based.

His conclusion: Depardieu's quotes were taken out of context, edited and spliced together to make the actor appear to confess

The magazine added phrases that he didn't say." Mr. Chutkow said. "When you listen to the tape, it's quite clear that he's dismissing earlier press reports as exaggerated. He says, 'yes, I've been painted as some-

one who is an alcoholic. But do I have the head of an alcoholic? Yes, comeone wrote I once took a put to school to show off to my friends, but I didn't carry a gun.' He's not admitting to anything but the fact that he knows this stuff has been written about him.

Mr. Chutkow said the incident, which may have cost the actor an Academy Award for his starring role in Cyrano De Bergerac, deeply wounded him and tarnished his reputation in the United States. Despite resounding support from the French film industry. Depardieu was disconsolate for weeks.

But he recovered to triumph in Tous Les Matins Du Monde (All The Mornings Of The World). He also appeared in Christopher Columbus: 1492, his second English-language success after Green Card. The movie received lukewarm to unfavourable re-

As Mr. Chutkow puts it, Depardieu bounced back "the way a vine that has been pruned will grow back even fuller "

France's biggest hit — will it play in peoria?

By Barbara Novovitch Reuter

NEW YORK - Claude Berri's epic retelling of an Emile Zola classic about 19th century coalminers outsold even Jurassic Park at cinemas in France last year, but the French filmmaker has more down-toearth expectations for his latest film in the United States.

Germinal, starring Gerard Depardieu, Miou Miou and Renaud -- a protest singer who to French youth is a combination Bruce Springsteen/Bob Dylan — was seen by well over six million people last year in France.

The film also inspired \$9.6 million sales of the Zola novel in paperback. Berri told Reuters in New York. The book's title, like the film, refers to germina-

tion and rebirth. But Berri said he did not anticipate that sort of phenomenal success for his film in the United States, even though it generally has had a good critical reception

and positive word of mouth. 'I'm a realist," said Berri, puffing nervously on a Lucky Strike cigarette. "I think if people go to see the film, they will like it. "But if they get the im-

pression from the press that it's too difficult, perhaps they won't go. We have the impression now that people like to go (to the movies) for entertainment, comedies, easy things. And they don't like films that make

them ask questions." Germinal, at \$30 million the most expensive French production ever, is now playing in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles and will roll out slowly across the United States, according to its distributors, Sony Pictures Classics. It has already grossed about \$50,000 at just three theatres.

A New York Times critic called the film, which vividly portrays the exploitation of coalminers by wealthy mine owners and presages the birth of unions and communism in France, "one of the most desperately romantic films ever made.

"Difficult as it is to think of a coal-mining drama as sheer escapism, Germinal is most tempting for its vision of moral purity," wrote Janet Maslin.

"A film like Germinal is rare," said Berri. "There's not only the challenge of ideas, there's also the spectacle the reconstitution of history, the love story... This is a very emo-

tional, very moving film and at the end of it people will want to discuss it, to discuss what happened at the end of the 19th century and what happens now.

Berri, best known to American audiences for Jean De Florette and Manon Of The Spring (1986), said differing postwar experiences with communism. for example, would influence sympathies in the U.S.

The hulking French every-man, Departieu, plays the leader of the French miners and Miou Miou his courageous wife. Renaud is the stranger who gets a job at the mine and a room with the couple and incites the workers to pursue a strike against the mine owners that ends tragically. Thousands of peasants and ex-miners from northern

Germinal, at \$30 million the most expensive French production ever. is now playing in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles and will roll out slowly across the United States. according to its distributors, Sony Pictures Classics. It has already grossed about \$50,000 at just three theatres.

and France for Zola's story. Socialist or Communist ideas were anathema in the United States after World War II while in France the Communist Party was an integral and respected part

of government. Berri dedicated Germinal to his father, a furrier "who always talked to me about the world's injustice" and who voted Communist after France are extras in the

Zola, perhaps most famous in the United States for his J'Accuse defence of the Jewish officer in the Drevfus affair, wrote the story of Germinal after eight days spent in the coal mines of northern France in 1884, taking copious notes that remain the most accurate sociological and histor-

try's mines of that period. At a New York screening of the film to benefit Amnesty International, the president of the human rights group called Zola "a

one-man Amnesty Interna-

ical document on the coun-

tional of a century ago." Germinal was nominated for 12 Cesars — the French equivalent of Academy Awards - and won two, for Best Cinematography and Best Costumes.

Berri seemed unconcerned about not winning a Cesar as Best Director. Like U.S. director Steven Spielberg, who was snubbed repeatedly by the Academy Awards before winning this year with Schindler's List. Bern has been nominated four times as Best Director but has not yet won the prize.

Michael Barker of Sony Pictures Classics, distributors of Germinal, said in a telephone interview that good foreign films and films with more serious topics have a wide audience in the United States but sometimes take longer to find it.

'There's always been an audience out there that wants more for their moviegoing experience," said Mr. Barker. "If you've got a quality picture the audience is going to go see it."



Claude Berri

In addition, major Hollywood studios are now making movies that a few years ago would have been called art movies, he said - Remains Of The Day, The Joy Luck Club, Schindler's List.

"That can only help the business that we're in because it gives the theatres more solid programming throughout the year," Mr. Barker said.

Success for Soundgarden has its bittersweet moments

LOS ANGELES — Seattle grunge rockers Soundgarden may finally be enjoying commercial recognition after vears as uncompromising heroes of the underground. But the success has

Their latest album Superunknown entered the U.S. album charts at number one last month, accomplishing the same rare feat as recent offerings from hometown bands like Pearl Jam, Nirvana and Alice In Chains.

Yet it irks the quartet. that, as the commercial gap narrows between them and these bands, it widens in relation to other contemporaries like Screaming Trees and Melvins.

have really worked hard and have shown their influence on a lot of bands across Seattle and across the country," Soundgarden guitarist Kim Thayil told Reuters in a recent inter-

be made about Soundgarden though. Formed in 1984 and named after the Sound Garden pipe sculpture on that Pacific northwest town's Sand Point, the band made several independent records before releasing its major label debut Louder Than Love on AM Records

That album, featuring the song Big Dumb Sex that Guns N Roses covered on their recent punk tribute album, peaked at 109. Badmotorfinger from 1991. peaked at 39 and eventually

singer guitarist Chris Cor-

of the Seattle scene.

our own ship. We have our

Demand soars for paintings by contemporary Vietnamese artists In 1988, he was rehabili-

By Tom Kirkwood Reuter

HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam — Residents of Ho Chi Minh City rarely give the tiny shop in Nguyen Du Street a second glance but its goods are fast becoming some of Vietnam's most sought-after, commodities.

Since Nguyen Thi Lan Huong opened Gallery Saigon for business a year ago, a steady stream of tourists, foreign businessmen and a few welltravelled dealers have flocked to it searching for paintings by contemporary Vietnamese artists.

No longer now are the artworks hanging on the shop's walls the dirt-cheap

bargains they used to be. In 1991, I sold two Phai's for \$100 each. I must have been mad. Last month one Phai I sold, a beautiful nude, went for \$10,000,

said Ms. Huong. She was talking about works by the late Bui Xuan Phai, one of the most sought after masters of

Vietnamese contemporary art, some of whose paintings hang in her simple gal-

The five-figure sum for the Phai, paid by a Hong Kong-based American banker, reflects the emergence of Vietnamese art in the international marketplace, she said. Ms. Huong, 27, realised

the potential of Vietnamese art in 1991, when she opened her first gallery with "I had to persuade him to

sell his car first," she recalls. "We opened on Jan. 15, 1991 and became the third gallery in Saigon." Driving over a rattling

wooden bridge across the Saigon River, on the way to visit Nguyen Than — a lesser known, but fast-rising star of the Vietnamese art scene - Ms. Huong explains how she accumulated

her collection. "The artists, all of them are my friends." she says. "One will call me up and invite me for a drink. Another may invite me for dinner... If they have a

painting to sell, they tell me and I arrange to see it.
"If I like it I will buy it. If not, I may give them some money until they have a

painting I want to buy." Ms. Huong's business tactics have so far proved successful and her index of customers is comprehensive Among a surprisingly long list of buyers are, for example, an attorney from Chicago, a company presi-

dent from New York, an art

consultant from Chicago,

antique dealers from Hong

Kong, and even a South

Korean toymaker. Ms. Huong opened her Gallery Saigon independently last year, raising the \$4,000 she needed to start up by selling her motorbike and some paintings from her first gallery, as well as a \$1.500 commission on a

land deal. She is also learning Japanese at night school. tapping into a pool of energy released by Vietnam's highly successful Doi Moi (renovation) economic policy, begun in 1986.

An hour's drive from

Gallery Saigon, the house of 46-year-old artist Nguyen Than is in Ho Chi Minh City's Section 8, a dilapidated suburb of small houses interspersed by riots of bougainvilles and frangipani trees.

Despite the rundown surroundings, behind plain concrete walls lies a dream house - a thick clump of shady trees emerges from a dark pond and shades a church-shaped house that, like Than's art, is largerthan-life.

A squat man with long hair and wirv philosopher's beard, Than had a particularly difficult time after the Communist government came to power in 1976. For 12 years after the war he worked as a part-time fisherman and cyclo driver. He was denied official employment and forbidden to paint.

But paint he did - at night, in secret, hiding his paintings in the roof of his simple reed hut. "Many paintings were spoiled when it rained," he said with a

tated - "because of Doi Moi." he explained, without elaborating. The size of his new house

reflects the success he has enjoyed since his rehabilitation. Huge walls surrounding open-plan living spaces are hung with the large. dreamy works that are his trademark. Than's work, like that of

many contemporary Vietnamese artists is quickly developing an international following. His work appeared in a 1991 collection of Vietnamese art shown by Hong Kong's Plum Blossoms Gallery, and more recently a visiting Australian collector bought 10 of the artist's paintings after a visit to his home. While part of the attrac-

tion of Vietnamese art has been its value for money, a burgeoning demand is pushing up prices. Ho Chi Minh City's many

gift shops now all have their own selections of local art. Not all of which however is coveted by international art

"A lot of people are trying their hand at painting because it is a way out of poverty," said Judith Day, co-owner of a Hong Kong gallery specialising in Viet-

namese art.

"My partners and I were very attracted to Vietnamese art, which is sort of a blend of Asia and the West in a way that Japanese and Chinese art is not," she' explains.

Ms. Day is hardly alone in her appreciation of what Vietnam's artists have to offer. Her gallery in Hong Kong's trendy Lan Kwai Fong district is to publish a book on Vietnamese artists, while the upmarket Asian Art News magazine is planning a Vietnamese art supplement for its May 1994

Held back by decades of war and communism. Vietnamese art is, in Ms. Dav's view, finally gaining the recognition it deserves.

"I don't think it was ever really discovered by anyone outside of Vietnam before," she says. "It's been hidden for a long time."

By Dean Goodman Reuter

its downside too.

"These are the bands that

Thavil considers the Melvins, a trio best known for its thunderous Black Sabbath-type riffs, as probably the most influential Seattle band. It riles him that second-rate bands are selling millions of records by cashing in on the buzz that the Melvins inadvertantly helped generate.

No such allegations can

went platinum in the U.S. Although Superun-

known's number one showing was hardly a surprise given the grunge explosion, it's very rare to hear the words "Soundgarden" and "Commercial" uttered in the same breath. The band's relentlessly dense music is flavoured by the death-obsessed lyrics of

Several weeks ago, Nirvana lead singer Kurt Cobain was found dead in his garage, an apparent suicide.

"Sure, we could write a Shiny Happy People-type song if we wanted people with cowhoy hats to be in

our audience," says Thayil. Thavil, a gentle bearded giant with a philosophy degree and an evil chuckle, is the "soul" of Soundgarden. He eschews the various side projects that the rest of the

band, which is rounded out

by drummer Matt Cameron

and bassist Ben Shepherd.

have indulged themselves "I think if I were to write 10 songs for a separate album, it's quite likely they'd be better as Soundgarden songs. Soundgarden parallels the vision that I would have for writing. It's been a tradition as cofounder and originally primary songwriter," he

Back to the subject of writing happy songs. slumped next to Thavil and blowing smoke rings, Chris Cornell adds: "Usually when I write songs like that. it's songs for my dogs they re kinda happy to be alive and just love you to

death." Suffice to say the album, bookended by the songs Let Me Drown and Like Suicide, has not been play-

ed for them. Cornell, a dashing figure whose lyrics favour the metaphorical, shies away from ascribing particular themes to the album. He says the 15-song, 70-minute effort, completed in November, took a longer than usual five months to

"What was going through our heads most of the time was: Let's make another record. Whatever ideas come out of the record. whatever attitudes, feelings or philosophies, it's up to the listener to decide. He says that nothing

makes him feel better writing a song that he likes, and then nothing makes him feel worse when three days later he realises that song is horrible. In line with his eternal reluctance to be pinned

down he says the album's title track is a reaction to categorisation; "Just because you don't see it as one thing, doesn't make it necessarily what you do see it as.`

For the record, Soundgarden professes to have no opinion on the current state

"We're just gonna do what we do, and do as well as we can. And whatever ship that everyone's jumping onto floats away or sinks - that's their business. We're not on that ship," savs Thavil.

Adds Cornell: "We have own rats.

When heart disease strikes, pessimism can be a killer

By Daniel Q. Haney The Associated Press

BOSTON - A healthy outlook helps heal the heart, scientists say in a major study that found pessimism ^t can be a killer.

The study identified optimism as a powerful predictor of who will live and who will die after the diagnosis of heart disease. It is the latest in a series of recent reports showing that people's emotions and friendships play a critical role in recovery.

"Optimism is a good

thing," Dr. Daniel Mark said. "When people give up and feel they are not going to make it, it's usually a self-fulfilling prophesy."

Dr. Mark, a heart specialist at Duke University, based his findings on a follow-up on 1,719 men and women who had undergone heart catheterisation, a common procedure used to check the arteries for clogging. He outlined the results at a meeting of the Society of Behavioural Medicine.

The patients typically

underwent the test because of chest pain, and all had heart disease. When interviewed, 14 per cent said they doubted they would recover enough to resume their daily routines.

After one year, 12 per cent of these pessimists had died, compared with 5 per cent of those who were optimistic about getting better.

Even when the severity of people's conditions was taken into account, outlook was a crucial factor in survival. In fact, optimism often seemed to have bearing on how sick people

were. Some of those with very mild heart disease had the grimmest views of their prospects.

"The mind is a tremendous tool or weapon, depending on your point of view," Dr. Mark

In his study, pessimism appeared to be even more damaging to recovery than depression, which is also shown to be bad for heart

Dr. Nancy Frasure-Smith of the Montreal Heart Institute presented follow-up

data on the effect of negative emotions on 222 patients, most of them in their 60s, who were recovering from heart attacks.

They were given a psychological test that measures feelings of sadness and depression. Those who scored high on this were eight times more likely than more upbeat folks to die during the following 18 months. Feeling anxious tripled the risk, as did holding

in anger. Less clear, however, is what to do about these black moods in heart pa-

"We don't know how to change negative emotions,' Dr. Frasure-Smith said. "And if we try to intervene, we don't know if we will change prognosis."

Other factors that appear to have an effect on heart disease survival include feeling hostile, being unmarried and having no one at home to talk to.

Even personality types appears to be linked. Dr. Larry Gorkin of the Institute for Behavioural Medicine found, for instance,

that hard-driven type a peo-ple are more likely to suffer initial heart attacks. But laid-back type Bs are more apt to die once heart disease

becomes apparent. It's possible, he said, that "type As take it as a wake up call. They work more diligently in cardiac rehabilitation than do type Bs."
Dr. Peter G. Kaufman,

chief of behavioural medicine at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, said the accumulating evidence fits together well.

"All of this work is pointing in the same direction,

which is a tremendous 🔀 thing," he said.

Just how emotions harm the heart is still unclear. Heart attacks usually occur when a bit of fatty buildup, called plaque, breaks in a heart artery. A blood clot sticks to this wound, plugging the artery and choking off the heart's oxygen supp-

Researchers speculate that emotions may increase levels of hormones that put strain on the artery walls or make the blood more likely to dot.

Transgenic animals offer brave new world in healthcare

By Ben Hirschler

just outside Edinburg the LONDON — On a farm outside Edinburgh the lambing season is in full swing.

But these are no ordinary lambs. Hidden in their chromosomes is an extra gene which means they will produce a valuable drug in their milk.

They are at the forefront of a new kind of farming taking shape on both sides of the Atlantic, aimed at harvesting drugs or organs for transplant from genetically-engineered

The U.S. and European companies involved believe they are on the brink of a billion-dollar industry. The idea of using "trans-

genic" animals has recently received a significant boost from advances in breeding successive generations.

Last month, a company in Cambridge, England, said it had produced a litter of pigs whose genetic makeup had been altered to allow their organs to be transplanted into people.

The first such transplants could take place withinthree years, the company, Imutran, predicted.

Trials in humans of drugs from animal milk could start even sooner. Pharmaceutical Proteins Ltd

(PPL), the company which bred the Scottish sheep, says this year's lambs will supply the first sheep-milk drug for clinical tests starting in late 1995 or early 1996.

Alpha-1-Antitrypsin (AAT) is designed to fight lung disorders. But PPL, which hopes to

float its shares later this year, does not have the genetic farmyard to itself.

The U.S. company Genzyme Transgenics, of Framingham, Massachusetts, intends to pip it to the post by getting its goats' milk anti-thrombosis drug Anti-Thrombin-III (AT-III) into clinical trials in 1995.

And Genpharm International of Mountain View, California, has just produced the first progeny from a Dutch biotech bull - opening up the prospect of drug manufacture in cows, which have a milk yield more than 10 times that of goats or sheep.

Taking a slightly different tack. British researchers at the state-backed Roslin In--stitute have reported progress in breeding a flock of

transgenic chickens capable of producing drugs and vaccines in their eggs.

Technical hurdles re-

main, including proving that chemicals from farm animals are pure enough for medical use. But proponents argue that transgenic system has big advantages over the conventional method of producing protein drugs from genespliced bacteria, yeasts or mammalian cells grown in fermentation vats.

PPL Managing Director Ron James says his sheep are cheaper and can produce certain complex therapeutic proteins which a factory could never do economically.

Genzyme Transgenics sees a market in excess of \$1 billion a year for drugsfrom-milk by early next "I think there could be

dozens of products by 2002 or 2003 each with revenues in the ten of millions and potentially hundreds of millions of dollars," said President James Geraghty.

His company alone is working on a range of major diseases including cancer, multiple sclerosis, stroke and diabetes. Although the widespread

use of pig kidneys or hearts looks unlikely until well into the 21st century, transgenic organ transplants could also be a substantial

The U.S. cross-species concern DNX estimates that if such transplants 'prove safe and effective, more than 100,000 patients worldwide could receive new pig organs each year. Heart transplants are likely to be the least troublesome since there are fewer rejection problems in this area.

Major drug companies are dipping a cautious toe in the water. "They are just starting to believe," said Mr. Geraghty.

Germany's Bayer is

working with PPL on its AAT product while Sumitomo of Japan is working with Genzyme on AT-III and Imutran is backed by Swiss giant Sandoz. A number of other ma-

other projects on an undisclosed basis, company executives say. Not everyone is thrilled by the new breed of livestock down on the farm,

jors are collaborating on

The British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection said it was extremely concerned about the use of genetically altered animals and said the practice caused the animals great suffering for dubious medical benefit.

The transgenic companies insist that this is not so. While some early transgenic animals were a disaster — such as the Beltsville Pig, named after the United

States laboratory which developed an animal so heavy it could not support itself today's animals are fit and healthy, they argue. "My sheep are perfectly

healthy, normal sheep that get treated in general a great deal better than most sheep kept for farming purposes," said PPL's James.

Malaria vaccine shows promise in initial human trials

By Jim Fuller

WASHINGTON - Researchers report that a new malaria vaccine being tested in Africa stimulates the body's immune system to fight the dreaded disease without causing harmful side

The scientists, in an arti-cle to be published in the Feb. 8 issue of the British medical journal Vaccine, say the success of the initial trials has paved the way for the final phase of human tests now underway in the Kilombero district. Tanzania. If these tests are successful, scientists hope that an effective malaria vaccine could be available for wide-

scale use by 1998. There is currently no effective vaccine to prevent malaria, which strikes between 300 million and 500 million people a year and annually kills up to one million children in Africa, where it is the most widespread.

Dr. Tore Godal, director of the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR), said the initial trials of the vaccine, called "SPf66," show that it is safe for children and induces a strong immune system re-

sponse. The TDR is funded mainly by the United Nations : Development Programme ... (UNDP), the World Bank and the World Health Organisation.

The Tanzania test demonstrates that we are over half way to developing. the first ever effective malaria vaccine," Dr. Godal says. "There are still big scientific hurdles to overcome, but we can push the search through to a conclusion as long as the flow of research. funds continues in these difficult economic times."

"Malaria is killing millions in Africa and threatening economic development in every continent," says Tim Rothermel, director of UNDP's Division for Global and Interregional Programmes. "For the first time, we are putting the long vears of vaccine development to the test in largescale trials in Africa."

The researchers report that results from the final phase of human trials, which involve more than 600 children in Kilombero, should be available by next. October. These tests will tell scientists whether the experimental vaccine really. protects children by reducing the number and severity

of malarial attacks. "If the vaccine allows us

to cut the rate of malaria attacks in half, and if that can be translated directly into a halving of death rates, success in the trial would offer hope of saving up to 500,000 African children's lives each year," Dr. Godal says.

Dr. Godal adds that the vaccine is getting a severe-test in Kilomberd, where during the rainy season a person can suffer as many as 25 bites a night from malaria-infected mos-

The widespread infection from malaria that exists throughout Africa causes little trouble to adults, who develop immunity after repeated exposure. But the disease is a killer in young, non-immune or only semiimmune children.

The SPf66 vaccine is also being tested in Gambia and Thailand, where results are expected in 1995. Two further trials are underway in Colombia.

The vaccine was first tested on monkeys, and then on humans in Colombia, where it achieved a 22-to 77- per cent reduction in malarial attacks, with the greatest reduction in the young and very old.

SPf66, developed by Colombian scientist Manuel Patarroyo, is a combination of synthetic peptides that causes the body's immune system to attack the malaria parasite when it begins to spread in the bloodstream. Malaria is caused by a tiny parasite carried by female mosquitoes.

Doctors currently fight malaria with a small arsenal of drugs. But strains of malaria found in many parts of Africa have developed a resistance to the front-line drug used to fight the disease, called chloroquine.

Insecticides have also been used to kill malariacarrying mosquitoes, but such methods have not been practical or cost-effective across much of Africa or in regions of Latin America and Asia.

Medical officials express concern that the fight against malaria may be jeopardised by budget cuts in the United States and other countries. They say private companies are not interested in funding the development of a malaria vaccine, which would not be expected to provide a profitable return on investment since it is needed mainly in very poor countries — U.S.Information Agency.

ANSWERS

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. The Marathon is a long, gruelling race which traditionally closes the Olympic events. It is taken from the amazing achievement of the Greek runner Pheidippides, who ran over twenty-six miles in four hours, taking news to Athens of the Persians' defeat at the Battle of Marathon in 490 B.C.

2. James II. after he was forced to flee to France, with the Old Pretender, his son James III, and his grandons, Charles Edward Stuart. When their Jacobite followers were asked to drink the loyal toast to the king, they passed their glasses first over a bowl of water before drinking, thus drinking not to George, but "the king over the water."

* * * * *

3. All species of animals, including man, of course, have developed very gradually over millions and millions of years. In this way, each animal strengthens and improves those parts of its body which are particularly useful, and the various parts adopted. This evolution happens very, very slowly, and changes can only be seen over numerous generations. In four-legged animals, or quadrupeds as they are called, the tail is very important for balance, and in many cases it is used almost as another limb, for instance when monkeys swing through the trees. Man, however, walks on two legs- he is called a biped- and he does not need the tail for balance. As a matter of fact, a small very rudimentary "tail" can be found at the base of our spires, but it does not help us at all with balance or movement.

* * * * *

4. An accentor is a bird, widespread in Europe, and

A briard is a sheepdog, particularly popular in

* * * *

5. The English language is spoken by approximately 400 million people, making it the second most-used language in the world, though it is generally agreed that it is the richest of the world's 5,000 languages. Four hundred years ago English was spoken only by the inhabitants of the British Isles, but today more than half the world's magazines, newspapers and scientific journals are printed in English.

In 1606 the language only had a vocabulary of about 30,000 words, whereas modern English is estimated to include some 500,000 words, of which only 200,000 are in current use. An average person today knows and uses at least 10,000 words and can understand a conversation of up to 322 words a minute. In conversation the word "I" is most used, while in writing it is "the".

PUZZLES

(1) FIND THE WORD

DEIFIED, being a palindrome, may be read backwards as well as forwards, so that it appears twelve

* * * * *

(2) MISSING LETTERS

The sentence runs as follows: A GRIMACING GARGOYLE IS LESS AGGRA-VATING THAN A GIGGLING GIGOLO.

* * * * *

\$

(3) POINT:

This is the only geographical feature which protrudes seawards. The others all bend the coastline inwards.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

DEFT DEFS By Wilson McBeath

ACROSS

1 Robert Grimskin?	39 Conway
7 Has an effect on	43 Singer A
14 Something that	44 Phone
serves to unite	45 Son of Z
20 Intertwine	46 Buck her
21 Tailor?	47 Clicke to
22 Lion	farmer?
23 Cliche for	53 Article
Dorces?	54 " In Di
26 Highest rated	55 Author K
ones	56 Aud
27 NYC subway syst.	57 Fashiona
28 Demonstrates	59 Spears
clearly	61 More diff
29 — juvante	62 Climbing
30 Animated	64 Promote

one 89 Made smooth 71 Learned

115 "— to Abelard" (Pope) 116 Asseverate 117 Takes umbrage

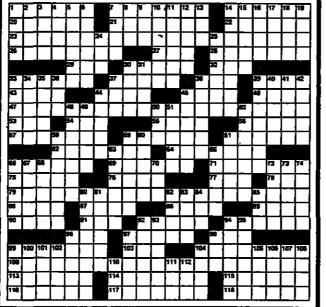
Diagramiess 19 x 19, By James Barrick 35 Polish
36 Make happen
38 Dreads
39 Unlawful
activity
40 Like a doily
41 Dir. letters
42 High card
43 Tub washing
45 Get outta here
49 Scrap of front 25 —-la-la 26 Bancroff or Meara 27 Roanded large

38 Use soft soap 43 Wet, spongy ground 44 Bedouin 45 Exhibition 48 Kind of oil or

lump 28 Food at a luau 29 Color 32 Before very long 33 Flat-bottomed 1 Long-eared animal 2 in the region of the ear 3 Fuzz 4 Sch subj. 13 Ms Korbut 13 Me Korbut
14 Bearing
15 Form of "John"
16 Grow weary
17 Possesses
18 Contour
19 Seize suddenly
27 Thuga for hire
28 Balance
29 Unshaven, and
needing a haircut
too 4 Sch Sub;
5 London district
6 Poe's "Murder9
in the —
Morgue"
7 Sphere
8 Charlese gelatin

50 Rives in the Alps 51 Highlanders 54 Old Roman poet 56 Ticket and 50 Be a lift with an audience 64 Actor Andrews 65 Depicted by

47 Bodily structure: abbr. 48 M.J.T. word: abbr. 50 Greek letter 52 Covers 52 Covers 53 Crisp coolds 55 Scaleless fis 56 A few 57 Melody 58 Addict 59 Steeping place 61 Wildebeest 62 Pop 83 Success



Last Week's Cryptograms 1. To prove music has charms to soothe a savage beast, bold hunter carries only a CD player and some good discs.

2. When young nurse argued against his snuff-sniffing habit, old duffer's rebutial was a lot of haffy guff.

3. Possibly the very best address for unthankful pedigreed dogs: "Bark"

Avenue.

4. Fat man said: "Tm on a seafood diet. If I see food, I eat it."

1. ERJ-WQBKAEPLJ SEZPY CQP EWWLHB DLPPS NQPJS IE LQNK DEEH SEZPYBILH LPILHAPY KAB ERJ-IACLES BIEHL

2. LXA-YOUP BLOAF YBLMFW QA GUPFAW "OBA TOPUWYTUPYMY" QAGUMYA VO'Y YMCB UX LFW TVFA VXX. -By Duane H. McGogy

"ISLSPA ESUB EGUYU WIAOSYU-DEB ESS —By Ed Huddleson 4. EGGS HSTODN: ABNI NTNUVLBOIE NRCN

WHORE, LUV WGRRGAOIB SOUNDLOGIC.



SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZIJE

-By Frank N. Stein

CRYPTOGRAMS

-By Barl Ireland

3. WISEGUY ASKD LUYYW MDEEDHDBO:



ملذا عند الأصل

rueen Zein laid to rest

(Continued from page 1)

rain, President of outi Gouled Abtidon, tan President Hafez Al ad, Syrian Vicendent Abdul Halim ddam, United Arab irates (UAE) Emir kh Zayed Ben Sultan Al

ayan, Libyan leader mmar Qadhafi, Egyp-President Hosni sarak, Yemeni Viceident Ali Salem Al ib, the president of tzerland, Bahraini ne Minister Sheikh lifeh Ben Sahman Al iifeh, Iraq's permanent esentative to the United ons Nizar Hamdonn, ctor General of the Un-Nations Educational mtific and Cultural anisation (UNESCO) ctor General Federico

or, Secretary General ne Arab Writers Union ari Kawar, Arab Bank irman Abdul Majid man, director and of the International k in Loudon, director of ABC news, the Jordacommunity in Canada, Commander of the U.N. cekeeping forces in atia Major-General zi Al Tayyeb, the presiof the Korean Hanbo pany, Popular Front he Liberation of Palesleader George Habash. ocratic Front for the eration of Palestine er Nayef Hawatmeh. anisation of Islamic nference (OIC) etary-General Hamid Ghabid, Executive etary of the U.N. Ecoic and Social Commisfor Western Asia TWA) Sabah Bakiaji, ld Health Organisation (O) Regional Director nl Razzaq Al Jaza'iri, etary General of the siar Unity Party Talai

Executive Committee Mohammad Zubdi Al

> His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassau received a condolence cable from the crown prince of Raas Al Khaima emirate, Sheikh Khalid Ben Sager Al Qassimi,

Their Royal Highnesses the princess also received condolences from a large

number of people.

These included the speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, ministers, members of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, Islamic and Christian clergymen, heads of government departats, secretaries general of Jordanian political perties, presidents of profesassociations, clubs, societies and public institutions, journalists and writers, former ministers, administrative governors. representatives of industria and commercial sectors, leaders of Jordanian tribes and refugee camps as well as the commander and senior officers of the Palestine Liberation Army.

Members of the Royal Family will continue to receive condolences from the public Thursday and Fri-

Crown Prince Hassan later visited Mali President Alpha Omar Connary at his residence in Al Hashemiyeh Palace and thanked him for attending the funeral.

Crown Prince Hassa discussed with President Connary scopes of bilateral cooperation in the economic

The Crown Prince reviewed with him Jordan's efforts to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East and the economic pressures Jordan

is facing.

President Connary thanked Prince Hassan for the hospitality accorded to him and voiced hope for enhancing bilateral rela-

rdan awaits arrangement

an even more active role ne negotiating process with that arose earlier this th between the two counover the presence of

amshi, directors of the

al Jordanian (RJ)

es abroad, heads of

icipal and rural coun-

il leaders, leaders of

stine refugee camps, member of the PLO

charitable societies,

nas representatives in Jor-1seemed to have been set-We are now willing to sign reached any other way. ements on all individual

rael, PLO go all out

se of all prisoners held Sept. 13, the date of the ing of the Israeli-PLO nomy accord in Washingbut the number was not

ie PLO delegation had red an Israeli proposal to the freeing of members of Islamic Resistance Movet Hamas to a written ge not to carry out further Israeli attacks.

stead it suggested that e prisoners held since i. 13 would make such a mitment whatever their jance, the PLO source

e added the PLO had also Isted an Israeli demand to the right to veto nominafor members of the future

tinian conneil. the occupied Gaza Strip, fofficials said Israel will dover the five major police on the Gaza Strip to ₽LO on May 3. he Israelis will also give the

stinians the criminal reis from the Strip to comwith the handover. he Israeli authorities had facted the PLO this week nform them of the switch

lwing progress made in the o negotiations, said the tals who refused to be

\$9,000 strong Palestinian te force is to take over withdrawing Israeli is to maintain order in the homous areas.

ven thousand of the offictre to enter the areas from ad with the first major of several hundred exed shortly via Jordan and

Riyadh meanwhile Mr. stopher said he had held tellent" talks with Gulf o foreign ministers.

3 said that apart from the e process, he had discusthe situation in the Gulf. and Iran with ministers the Gulf Cooperation

ncil (GCC). exording to a GCC source took part in the talks, Mr. stopher also raised the of lifting the Arab couneconomic boycott against

(Continued from page 1)

items on the Jordan-Israeli agenda and to participate in the multilateral talks on all fronts discussing all issues at one time in the hope that these negotiations will lead to a peace treaty," Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali told reporters this week, stressing that such a treaty cannot be

They also discussed Iraq and reaffirmed the need to "contime the embargo imposed on the country" by the U.N. Security Council following its

1990, the source said. Mr. Christopher later met with Saudi King Fahd in a bid to mend links, officials said. Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal also met with the U.S. envoy, announcing afterwards that the U.S. administration had nomin-ated a new ambassador to

It was hoped talks between the king and Mr. Christopher would ease strained relations between Saudi Arabia and the

United States. The administration of President Bill Clinton had been angered by Riyadh's support for then President George Bush during the U.S. election

campaign.
U.S. Charge d'Affaires
David Wellech has headed the U.S. diplomatic presence in Saudi Arabia since former U.S. Ambassador Charles Friemans ended his mission in

Washington proposed the nomination of former Ambassador to Kuwait Edward Gnehm in January, but the kingdom did not respond to the proposal, the Washington

A Saudi diplomat, who requested anonymity, told AFP Saudi Arabia was "hoping that Clinton would appoint one of his close collaborators as ambassador to be able to take better charge of their impor-tant relations."

One Western diplomat told AFP earlier: The prolonged absence of an American ambassador in Riyadh shows the hidden tension between the United States and the Saudi kingdom, its main ally in the

Arab region." In a bid to ease the strains, Saudi Arabia has continued its programme of U.S. arms acquisitions despite economic difficulties caused by falling oil

The Congress Research Centre recently estimated the total value of Saudi arms here with Mr. Kozyrev on orders at about \$25 billion. Tuesday.

By Brendan Boyle Renter

CAPE TOWN - Muriel Oliphant voiced the secret fear of many white South Africans when she warned that black rule after next week's watershed all-race elections would be a recipe for disaster.

"Blacks can't run this country. Just look at the rest of Africa... All you see is ruin," she told Reuters after a National Party election rally in Cape Town.

But political analysts and Nelson Mandela's mainlyblack African National Congress (ANC) believe a nonracial democracy in South Africa need not follow the pattern of Africa

"It will not be a government that runs flawlessly, but we are not looking at chaos," said professor Vincent Maphai, a political scientist at the mainly black Universi-ty of the Western Cape.

"What is going to save this country is the regularity of elections. The electorate is sophisticated enough to rout a government it does not like," he said. Mr. Maphai said the ANC,

almost certain to control the country's first all-race government, had recruited a solid core of economic experts and advisers. "The ANC has proved it is willing

to learn," he added.

Ms. Oliphant, a mixedrace textile worker in Cape Town's salt river industrial area, said she associated black rule with corruption and incompetence. "At least the whites know how to run government, they know how to build schools and run

hospitals," she said. But ANC Social Welfare Director Cheryl Carolus said President F.W. de Klerk's ruling National Party had plunged South Africa into debt and had left a legacy of backlogs in housing, education and health care.

'When Nelson Mandela and the others walk into parliament, they will inherit the National Party's police, the National Party's health system and the National Party's system of bantu education.' she added. That is when the real

work is going to start."

Ms. Carolus, tipped by some ANC sources as a likely advisor to Mr. Mandela if as



ABOUT TO LEAD: Black South Africans are expected to steer the helm after today's elections. ANC supporters believe they are to lead

Can blacks run South Africa? most say 'yes'

the country, though possibly

not enough of them. He said South Africa was

expected he becomes the country's first black president, said the ANC had the

"On academic competence, the ANC stands head and shoulders above the rest. You can go through the whole list of necessary skills and will find that the ANC has the best of those skills.'

Patricia de Lille, Cape leader of the radical Pan Africanist Congress, said whites had created a myth about their own expertise in Africa, "We don't accept for a start that whites have set any example to be followed. But Africans have had years to learn how the job should 'shé added. be done.' Actually, it is us, it is the doing all the work."
Willie Breytenbach, professor of African studies at

"South African blacks have been exposed to modernisation longer than anyone else in Africa. Even in the Hinterland, in the most isolated areas, black people have been in contact with technology... There is no other region where

thorough and as consistent." Willie Brytenbach, a professor of African studies.

this exposure has been as deep, as

the mainly white University of Stellenbosch, said the ANC had the best brains in

unlikely to repeat the mistakes of decolonising Africa partly because the world trend was to reduce the power of governments and partly because the country's blacks had been exposed to technology for years.

"South African blacks have been exposed to modemisation longer than anyone else in Africa. Even in the Hinterland, in the most isolated areas, black people have been in contact with technology," he added. There is no other region where this exposure has been as deep, as thorough and as

Trevor Manuel, ANC head of economic planning, acknowledged when he took over the job two years ago: "I am on a vertical learning

Now he and white Finance Minister Derek Keys regplarly share platforms without conflict or apparent disagreement.

We re a bit of a mutual admiration society," Mr. Keys commented once, when businessmen audibly expressed disappointment at the lack of tension between them.

Asked to comment on the future of black rule, Anglican archbishop and Nobel Peace Prize winner Desmond Tutu said the disarray in some European governments made the question of whether blacks can run the country sound ludicrous.

'Would you have said that the Italians, who change governments like other people change socks, were ready for self-government?" he asked.

(Continued from page 1)

Almost 23 million South with barely three million whites in the past. Huge numbers turned out to exercise

their new right.
Zulu Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi cried foul, raising fears that his IFP might reject the result.
"I am concerned about the

invasion of Kuwait in August widespread rigging that seems to be taking place," he said after receiving reports that fake identity cards had been issued to people too young to vote and that his supporters had been thrown out of some voting stations.

He later told Public Television he had sent a fax to Independent Electoral Com-Riyadh, after a two-year absmission (IEC) head Judge Johann Kriegier, protesting that supplies of IFP stickers to be attached to ballot papers were "exhausted."

Mr. Kriegler said Monday the IEC had printed 90 million stickers to accommodate the IFP after its 11th hour decision on April 19 to contest the poll. Mr. Buthelezi only agreed to join in the election eight days ago after a month-long boycott

autonomous Zulu state. His decision raised a sigh of relief from a nation exhausted by bloody warfare between his August 1992. supporters and those of the ANC. If Mr. Buthelezi were to refuse to accept the poll result,

renewed conflict would loom.
The ANC said "there have been serious hitches" in voting and proposed Thursday be declared a holiday like Wednesday to clear backlogs. President F.W. de Klerk, after two discussions with Mr. Mandela in an hour, said he was also worried and was prepared to

consider it.

The old racial republic offi-cially died at midnight Tuesday with the raising of a new flag and introduction of a democratic constitution and bill of

to back his demands for a more

South Africans flock to vote rights that will outlaw any kind

Africans who have been

The second day of voting in the country's epoch-making all-race election saw the key leaders cast their ballots, as the polling stations opened to the general public after a day of voting Tuesday reserved for the elderly, infirm, pregnant women and officials on duty

throughout the election. With the old constituency system scrapped under the new method of proportional repre-sentation, leaders could vote wherever they thought they could make the most impact on the result, which is not expected before Sunday.

African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela became one of the first to vote when he cast his ballot in Natal, powerbase of the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP), the ANC's enemy in a low-key

Zulu civil war. Almost certain to be the new president, Mandela, 75, smiled proadly as the moment for which he had sacrificed 27 years of his life in South African jails came to fruition at the Ohlange primary school in the Inanda black township near

the east coast city of Durban. "We have now moved from an era of pessimism, turmoil and conflict," Mr. Mandela said as he voted. "Now we are starting a new era of hope, reconciliation and nation-

building."
President de Klerk voted, as he has always done, in the plush Pretoria suburb of Arcadia, saying he was "very, very shocked" by the bombing cam-

paign. Emotional black voters cheered him with calls of "I love you!" when he went on to Johannesburg's black township, Soweto, with his wife Marike and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer to watch Foreign Minister Pik Botha cast his ballot at the Holy Cross Church in Orlando West.

NATO 'alert' against Serb moves

(Continued from page 10) nian Serb stronghold of Pale to pick up the thread of negotiations wun Bosnian Serb leaders broken off during the Gorazde crisis, said U.S. Secretary of State Warren

Christopher. Mr. Christopher had met

Mr. Juppe and Mr. Kozyrev, speaking to journalists after meeting at the Russian embassy here, called for a rapid ministerial meeting on Bosnia, and renewed their calls for a

summit on the conflict. "We have no time to lose. We must not allow things to get bogged down," said Mr.

Fora Motor Company

Convey their heartfelt condolences

to the bereaved family on the sad demise of

Mr. Salameh Shehadeh Twal

We pray that God rests his soul in eternal peace.

Rich and poor states face off on development issues

WASHINGTON (R) — Rich and poor countries faced off Wednesday to explore ways to increase assistance to the developing world and to make certain economic reform remains on track.

The meeting of the joint development committee of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank came amid evidence developing countries overall are showing strong vitality with growth rates seen at five per cent annually for the rest of the decade.

World Bank President Lewis Preston, in remarks before the committee, said there had been a phenomenal increase in private flows to developing countries although he warned that this was not necessarily a

Some of these private flows can be volatile, their scale to some countries may not be maintained and they can place upward pressure on exchange rates and erode competitiveness," he said.

A communique issued following the talks said the committee agreed to establish a task force to review the roles being played by the World Bank and the regional development banks with an aim to improving cooperation on

Issuance of the communique ended four days of international meetings that focused on improving the global economy and ways to nurture it, while at

LONDON (R) — Britain is to

cut 500 foreign office jobs and

is considering sharing some embassies with Germany be-

cause of budget cuts, a top official said Wednesday. Elec-

tronic gadgetry will replace security officers and Britain's

presence in Latin America and

Senior civil servant Sir

David Gillmore said Britain's

Foreign and Commonwealth

Office, which currently has a

staff of 6,400 plans to reduce

larger posts and cut 500 sup-

port staff jobs at home and

range from 96 in Washington to just one apiece in Antigua

and Tristan da Cunha.

British embassy numbers.

He said plans were being

considered to share embassies

Africa is being trimmed.

the same examining the plight of least wealthy members of the economic community.

lines between the central banks

of the three countries, was

aimed at bolstering the bat-

tered peso and restoring inves-

tor confidence after last

month's assassination of ruling party candidate Luis Donald

But it was also an indication

the richest countries and those

in the developing world are increasingly fused by the huge

and lucrative trade flows be-

In an unusual joint news

conference the central bankers

and finance ministers of the

three countries announced the

formation of a new consulta-

tive body, the North American

Financial Group, to discuss economic and financial issues.

But even as these measures

go forward it is apparent that

not everyone in the developing

world has been enjoying in-

In a report to the committee

the World Bank said world

trade is set to increase follow-

ing the recent Uruguay Round

agreeement to open trading

Moreover, commodity

prices are projected to rise after more than a decade of

declines, helping many de-veloping countries which are

big producers.

But some countries are like-

ly to benefit more than others

from the good times that lie

East Asian nations — stellar

performers in recent years -

are projected to chalk up sub-

ahead, the bank said.

creased economic vitality.

Colosio.

tween them.

markets.

Developing countries have taken the view their weakest members needed more assistance from the industrial countries with particular emphasis on helping the very poor.

In a report Monday the bank said more people are living in poverty around the world than ever but in some ways they are better off than their forebears.

On the whole they are more educated and better protected against disease and living longer than impoverished people in the world's poorest countries did in the past. The committee, according to

the communique, discussed what it called the link between population, economic growth, poverty reduction, health and the environment.

It recommended the United Nations Conference on Population meeting in September in Cairo examine the importance of primary school education, improved access to family planning and reductions in maternal and child mortality

in developing countries.

The discussion on the state of the developing world came as the United States, Canada and Mexico announced the formation of multibilliondollar swap facility designed to help promote North American

currency stability.
The facility, a series of credit

stantial gains as their dynamic **British Foreign** economies continue to grow. Other regions will not be as office to cut 500 jobs fortunate, the World Bank said. Latin American countries will experience modestly faster growth but will still lag behind Ecuador and Iceland. the East Asian juggernaut. "All this is tough medicine,"

Gilmore told a parliament The worst performer is again likely to be sub-Saharan Africa committee probing the fi-nances of the diplomatic serwhere per capita income will grow slowly if at all, the World vice which is having its budget Bank said. cut by seven per cent as Britain

battles to trim its postrecession deficit. The foreign office budget for the 1994 to 1995 financial year

is £1.18 billion (\$1.76 billion).

When members of parliament expressed concern about £56 million (\$84 million) being cut from the security budget, Sir Gillmore assured them staff and the material they handled would not be put in jeopardy.

"Diplomats overseas are vulnerable," he said, singling out for praise staff who had worked in Bogota, Beirut, with Germany in Azerbaijan, Khartoum and Kigali.

Computer pirates cost industry \$12.8b in '93

LONDON (R) — Computer pirates who copy software programmes instead of paying for them cost the software pub-lishing and distribution industry around \$12.8 billion last year, the Business Software Alliance (BSA) said Wednes-

Europe, the largest market representing 19 countries, accounted for 38 per cent of that total loss.

Italy made the greatest strides in fighting piracy, reducing the percentage of software pirated to 50 per cent from a European high of 86 per cent of software sales in 1992,

This is my

report on dogs.

WHO COULD THAT

BE AT THIS HOUR OF

HOUR OF

THE NIGHT?

RING

said the BSA in a statement. This dramatic drop may owe much to the Italian govern-

Peanuts

Mutt'n'Jeff

ment's commitment to enforcement after Italy enacted a new copyright law — the EC software directive.

Both Italy and Spain had piracy rates of 86 per cent in 1992 but Italy's rate dropped to 50 per cent in 1993 while Spain's rate rose to 88 per cent over the same period.

The Spanish government did not implement the EC soft-ware directive until January 1994 while Italy met the EC

deadline for enacting the directive of Dec. 31, 1992.

In other regions of the world the software industry lost \$3.9 billion in \$3.9 billion i North America, \$821 million in Latin America and \$666 million in Africa and the Middle East, said the BSA.

Dogs are good to

have around because

they are always alert.

Foreign investors need strong nerves in Turkey per cent in 1993.

investors say Turkey is now only for the adventurous, but believe the outlook could improve if economic reforms are pushed through effectively. They took comfort in news

that Turkey was seeking help from the IMF, saying this would anchor Prime Minister Tansu Cilier's austerity measures to fight roaring inflation and deficits.

Three banks have folded since Ms. Ciller launched her programme on April 5, inflation is still heading for three digits and efforts to hold down wages may provoke social un-

Foreign traders accordingly predict more upheavals before the benefits of sounder fiscal policies are felt.

"More volatility is expected in short-term but the long-term outlook is better," said an offi-

cial at a leading German bank. Financial turmoil, in which the lira has plunged to 35,500 to the dollar, a fall of 58 per cent this year, has triggered heavy selling of Turkish bonds in international mar-

"Most of the players have suffered so badly in other emerging markets that they are not prepared to take any risk in Turkey," said a trader at a leading U.S. investment bank.

The spread on Turkey's mark bond due to 1996, jumped to 400 basis points over the German benchmark at the beginning of April, from 250 basis points at end-1993. It then recovered to 300 basis

The five-year issue in Germany was down to 200 basis points from a high of 280 basis points in April, against its issue spread of 195 basis points.

Dollar, sterling and yen mar-kets witnessed similar swings, reflecting a strong tendency to sell shorter-end issues.

There is a lot of turmoil that could build up if these economic measures are not implemented fast enough," said Maryam Mansoury, emerging market strategist at Lehman Brothers.

Turkish economy officials were telling investors in Lon-don and Frankfurt last week that things would soon get better. Hardly a new message, but Turkey feels on surer ground now that Ms. Ciller has grasped the IMF nettle.

Officials said the publicsector borrowing requirement would be cut to 10 per cent of gross national product this year from 17 per cent in 1993, a \$14.2 billion trade gap would be narrowed and growth would be nil after a consumer-led 7.3

"Even if they achieve 50 per cent of the targets, it's still a change for the better," said the official at the German bank.

Turkey, its borrowing plans now skewed towards debt markets, is talking to U.S. and European banks for a club loan, which bankers said could be around \$1 billion, to build up dwindling foreign reserves which stood at \$4.6 billion in April.

Foreign traders expect a high lira devaluation to continue in the next few months before Ms. Ciller's measures bear fruit.

For equity traders, the Turkish experience has also proved disappointing. Many of them were caught long when the Istanbul stock market tumbled 40 per cent from its 23,883 peak on Jan. 13. The composite index stood at 17,450.83

Shares of Fiat's Turkish unit TOFAS, which were oversubscribed in foreign markets at \$16 in March, now trade at \$3. Alcatel-owned Teletas owed four trillion lira (\$110 million) by the state-owned PTT, is seeking court permission to

reorganise its own debts. "Investors will be very selective," said Lehman's Mansoury. Quality names and private companies with no debts and positive cash balances could feel the pinch least, she added.

With most firms revealing bleak first quarter profits and many in the red, the market could dive further.

Direct foreign investments are also running out of steam. Three-month foreign capital inflow has totalled \$227 million this year, against \$257 million in the same 1993 period.

Saudis go for gold, other minerals besides oil could cost up to \$700 millian.

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (R) Saudi Arabia is inviting private investors to put in more than \$2.0 billion of new money for projects to tap its non-oil mineral resources.

The Kingdom already mines gold. It now wants to extract fron ore, phosphates and bauxite from under the desert

It may also have uranium but all detail on that was confidential, deputy minister of petroleum and minerals Ibrahim Khaberi said Wednesday.

"We do have some showings. It is too early to tell," he Ministry officials said gold output from mines at Mahd Al Dahab and Sukraybarat already exceeded 7.5 tonnes a year and might double by 1999 if three possible new mines went ahead.

For now, however, the government is seeking investors from Saudi Arabia and abroad willing to produce iron ore pellets, mine phosphates and explore the Arab World's only recoverable bauxite deposits.

Would-be investors were asked last month to come forward for a project worth \$550\$700 million to produce 2.2-4.0 million tonnes a year of iron ore pellets from deposits at Wadi Sawawin.

Eight firms, some of them foreign, have so far shown

In May, applicants will be invited to make pre-qualifying bid submissions in a bigger project worth \$1.75 billion to mine phosphates at Al Jalamid which would be used by an export fertiliser plant at the

new industrial city of Jubail. Later, the ministry will seek investment of up to \$55 million to evaluate bauxite reserves at Az Zabirah believed to exceed 100 million tonnes. This would be a component

of a wider project that could by the end of the century also include a refinery at Jubail to turn the bauxite into alumina. The Saudis would then hope

to sell this to existing aluminium smelters in Bahrain and Dubai which at present get their feedstock from Australia, The Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC), a vast state-

controlled conglomerate, has

hinted it would be interested in

building the refinery which

display research and produc-

tion, the newspaper reported.

It builds on current research

years' time.

The government may begin awarding licences in 10 months' time in these ventures. Meanwhile, Mr. Zaberi said the projects would fit well the strategic guidelines aimed at getting private industry more deeply involved in the Saudi The kingdom also wants to

diversify away from almost-total reliance on petroleum. A lease has already been issued to a Saudi firm to mine copper and zinc at Masane where production may begin to two

U.S. to give computer industry \$1 billion in aid

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news and television, Jordan

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TO SLEEP AGAIN!

TO FALL BACK COMPLETE LINE OF

White House has approved a proposal to spend up to \$1 billion to help U.S. computer companies compete with Japan in making advanced flat-panel computer display screens, the New York Times reported in

its Wednesday editions. The thin screens, used mainly in laptop computers are increasingly used in military

equipment acquired by the Pentagon, the newspaper said. A handful of U.S. companies have less than three per cent of the world market, while Japanese companies, lead by Sharp Corp, control the rest, the Times said.

The Clinton administration plan calls for heavy Defence Department spending to build up domestic suppliers instead, the newspaper reported, adding the Pentagon will hold

a press conference Thursday. The proposal would provide matching federal funds to firms that invest in flat-panel efforts paid for by the departments of defence and energy, for which Congress has already authorised \$100 million. The plan represents an effort to back and industry that

seems to be promised and short-circuit market forces, the The plan calls for the federal

government to pay part of the cost for U.S. companies to build four factories capable for U.S. companies to build four large factories capable of supplying a sixth of the \$4 billion world market for flat-panel

screens, the Times reported. It calls for the defence Department to contribute \$50 million in already authorised research funds for hie immediate construction of a high-capacity pilot plant. The defence and energy departments would also jointly spend \$450 million to subsidise research and exception over the next fie years, the Times said.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY APRIL 28, 1994 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This morning be more precise in handling your personal, offices and try to have more recreation in your life to cut down on ions that have been mounting. Avoid a tendency to spend

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Make plans to have greater abundance in the future. You. can get much accomplished now if you apply yourself in the right

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20)

Start using a new and more

efficient system and test it for practicality. Take no risks while in motion today. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Take care of important corres-

pondence and agreements and then do any work you have promised to do. Safeguard your health. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Engage in new outlets that can bring you added income.

Make repairs to property that are a needed right now. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Study your personal faults and take steps to improve them. Don't neglect social activities and have some fun. Express

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) This is an ideal day to

improve relations with an associate by being more cooperative. Headle an important business matter wisely.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Look to a good friend for a favour early in the day and get it. Come to a much better unde standing with your loved ones. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) State your aims to trusted associates who can help you gain them. Don't neglect an important business matter today. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You want to advance in many ways so find the right methods for doing so. Strive for increased happiness in both personal and professional

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Find a new system for handling any promises you have made and get excellent results. Maintain a cheerful manner for all to see.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Confirm agreements you made with associates and then carry through with the tasks connected with them. Be wise on any endeavour.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Take time to improve the appearance of your surroundings early in the day and then focus your attention on other matter which must be done.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY APRIL 29, 1994 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Fascinating new ideas will assist your growth and development as you maintain harmony with fami-ly members and add to your prestige by becoming even more involved in civic matters under four good aspects.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Any tasks you do today can bring fine benefits, be it in any realm of your existence. Later enjoy the company of congenial friends TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20)

Make arrangements early in the day for recreations over the weekend. Find better ways of improving your appearance for GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Take time to handle those small

tasks at home and they soon will be behind you. This is a good day to buy those supplies you need. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Show that you can commicate well with others. Longtime associates are most favourable to you now in whatever you wish to accomplish. LEO: (July 22 to August 21)

Handle monetary affairs early in the day since you have the power to be clever and exact at that time. Be more sure of yourself VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Engage in activities that

will improve your image and bring you greater success. Even-ing is fine for sprucing up your personal life for all to see. LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Sit in the quiet of your

home and figure out how to

operate more efficiently and pro-fitably in the future. Plan a romantic evening with mate. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Confide in a good friend who can assist you with some personal problem you have. Be wary of one who is goosipy about your personal life. SAGIITARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Engage in those activities you like that can add to

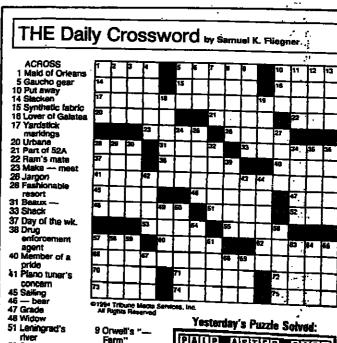
your prestige. Let your work stand out as something superior to those in charge. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Any new project should be studied very carefully before you go ahead with it. This is not a good day to make changes which are involved.

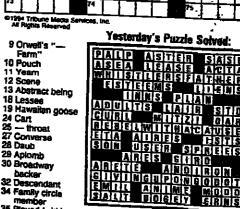
AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Be very precise in the handling of any special task you want to do. Try to be less critical of others today and you will achieve much prestige.

PISCES: (February 20 to March. 20) Know what it is associates expect of you and coordinate efforts more intelligently. Deepen relationships with new

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Ampid and Mile Argirian by Henri Arnold and Milito Argirion Unscramble these four Jamble it's back to Podunk for you one letter to each square, to form A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH four ordinary words. SUPEA DEWUN DHELVA HOW THE PITCHER FELT AFTER HE WAS SENT TO THE SHOWERS. HEWPEN Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as sug-gested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: ALL Yesterday's Jumbles: FOLIO SWOOP BOUNTY MARLEN Answer: When you cheat on your diet the result can be — WAIST-FULL THE Daily Crossword by Samuel K. Fliegner 14 Slacken 15 Synthetic fabric





broadway backer 32 Descendant 34 Family circle member 35 Played (with) 36 Beginning 39 Flirt 42 Whisker DOWN 1 Football team 2 Site of Diamond Head 3 Where Gool is 4 Chutzpah 5 A Rogers 6 Taxing op, 7 Disembark

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* West Bank, Gaza investment trickles through Israeli red tape

RAMALLAH, West Bank (R)
— Seven months after the PLO and Israel decided to make peace, Palestinian and foreign investment in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip seems likely to be a trickle rather than a flood.

A string of high-profile projects have hit the headlines but few are fully operational. Upheavals such as the delay

in implementing a self-rule accord for Palestinians in Gaza and the Jericho area of the West Bank, and a Jewish settler's massacre of some 30 Arabs in a Hebron mosque in February, have played a part in dampening the euphoria that followed the signing of a peace deal in September in Washing-

But Palestinian businessmen say the much greater obstacle is the web of Israeli regulations and restrictions that has controlled Palestinian economic growth for 27 years, and uncertainty about whether the web will unravel.

"Hundreds of new companies have been established but they remain on paper. We will have peace, this is inevitable. But what kind of peace is what businessmen are asking," said Samer Shehadeh, a founder of the year-old National Insurance Company.

Ibrahim Abdul Hadi, a leading businessman in the West Bank town of Nablus, said he had just received a permit to establish an iron rod manufac-

turing plant after three years.
"Now I will have great difficulty in calling all the investors back and getting them in-terested again," he said.
"The Israeli mentality has

not changed. A project can lie on an official's desk for years, whether he signs it or not he doesn't care. If he signs it, he's doing you a favour," he said.

In the emerging West Bank economic hub of Ramallah, the plush five-storey Commercial Bank of Palestine opened its doors this month, hoping to provide the financial apparatus that the territories surely lack. A few yards (metres) down the road, the Bank of Jordan has also opened.

Palestinians living abroad have set up a \$200 million investment holding company but the group has yet to estab-lish an office inside the territories.

Other spectacular-sounding projects like a joint venture bank between Palestinians and Israel's Bank Leumi, and a conglomerate to group Israel's Koor Industries with Palestinian, Moroccan and Spanish counterparts, also remain

The PLO-Israeli pact brought rosy visions from both sides of a new Middle East where peace is bolstered by an economic boom.

Hundreds of Palestinian and foreign investors swarmed through the territories sniffing for opportunities. PLO policy the economy is the formidable money and business skills of

the Palestinian diaspora. But Palestinians say the foreigners largely focused on projects linked to the billions of dollars of aid promised by donors to boost peace by rebuilding Palestinian infrastruc-

These are now on hold until the long-delayed implementation of self-rule - still subject to negotiation -- actually be-

A few dozen Palestinians from abroad have placed \$100,000 each in Israeli banks to gain residency under a new investment scheme. But one businessman living in the Arab World complains he faces stifling bureaucracy and uncertain-

This money is my commit-ment to my homeland. On any rational terms I should have put it somewhere else," said the businessman, who asked not to be named.

Ramallab industrialist Jalil Zabani said even tight Israeli closures that have paralysed the Palestinian economy since the Hebron massacre do not affect investment decisions.

"Trade is one thing and in-vestment another. We are in the worst recession now for years but it is related to shortterm political events. Investors look beyond that," he said. But the future shape of the

allow it, is still unclear.

Economic talks between the PLO and Israel have made some progress but are still stuck on the question of trade policy. The PLO demands the right to set its own trade policy and tariffs. Israel has responded by threatening to cut all economic links if there is no customs union.

Amid the uncertainty, one field of investment is speeding ahead — land development and housing. Land prices have moved little from the highs established after the Washing-ton signing and in towns all over the territories, apartment blocks and offices are slowly

going up.
But businessmen point out it is Palestinian population growth and Israeli restrictions on land use that fuel the real estate boom.

"We have a population growth rate of four per cent per year, perhaps the highest in the world," said Jowed Medhi, a Gazan industrialist who has switched to real estate

He said his only hope for the textiles factory he started was to export, an operation so mired in bureaucracy for Palestinians that it effectively requires Israeli middlemen.

"People will always need houses so we'll keep on building. But that doesn't mean the economy as a whole is flourishing," he pointed out.

Japan motor vehicle exports fall by 18%

TOKYO (AFP) - Japanese motor vehicle exports in the year to March fell by 18.3 per cent from the figure for the year to March 1993 to 4,622,092 units for the second consecutive annual decline to the lowest figure since 1979, an industry group said Wednes-day. The country's exports in March fell by 24.5 per cent to 424,901 units, which also marked the ninth consecutive double-digit decline, the Japan Automobile Manufactures'

The association attributed the continued serious decline to the global recession, the rapid growth of overseas production by Japanese automakers, as well as the slump of overseas sales due to the appreciation of the yen, which has made Japanese-made automobiles less competitive.

Association (JAMA) said.

"The new situation will no longer allow Japan to export more than five million automobiles," a JAMA official said, in a reference to Japan's expanding overseas produc-

Israeli companies see Egypt as gateway to Arab market

CAIRO (R) - Israeli telecom-munications firms, denied direct access to moneyspinning Middle East markets by an Arab boycott of their country, say they hope to use Egypt as a springboard to launch their products in the

Delegates from the six companies, in Egypt to attend a trade fair, said they were looking for partnerships with Egyptian companies who might produce their goods under licence for sales elsewhere in the Middle East.

Egypt is the only Arab state to have signed a peace treaty with Israel and is exempt from an Arab League boycott of the Jewish state. Haim Ashkenazi, an execu-

tive with the Israel Export Institute, said the companies were the first Israeli telecommunications firms to exhibit in the Arab World.

"Egypt is the country which opened the door to us, so we hope to use this as a way in,

Elisha Ben-Nachum, sales

manager at cables manufacturer Teldor, said his company would be discussing possibilities of joint venture partnerships with Egyptian firms. "It's a stepping point to the

other Arab countries. We

already seil in Morocco, but

we're looking for the regional market now," he said. The Arab Boycott of Israel also blacklists companies with major investments in the Jewish state, but there have been signs that this "secondary"

boycott is slipping.
U.S. Trade Secretary Ron Brown, on a visit to the region in January, said a number of U.S. companies on the boycott. blacklist had been prominent exhibitors at a trade show in Riyadh that month.

Another Israeli company at the Cairo show said it was looking for joint ventures agreements with Egypt or other African countries to produce its emergency back-up generators.

And Omn Avidan of Sogo Electronics, which sells facilities for telephone switchin Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain, had shown interest in the product. One of the firms, National

Telecommunications Operator Bezeq, is using the occasion to mangurate a direct telephone line linking Israel and Egypt "This is a big breakthrough It is the first direct link be.

tween Israel and an Argh country," said Bezeq official Daniel Chathit The terrestrial fibresperhine can carry thousands of calls between carro and Tal Aviv. At present calls have to be routed via submarine lanes to Italy, Mr. Charbit and But despite the optimization

that links to Eyspt might offer way into Arab markets, the Israelis in Cano had no this sions that battier, preventing them from participating direct. is in the neh coult market, were about to come down

Mr. Ben-Nachum said his company had approached Saudi Arabian company alga-"They told us "it's too early to do business," he said

Palestinian economy, and how GCC to lose \$17b from oil

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Arab Gulf states will lose more than \$17 billion this decade if industrial states go ahead with planned new energy taxes, according to a Saudi oil offi-

The taxes, proposed by the European Union (EU), would hit the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) hardest since it provides nearly 70 per cent of the total world's crude oil exports, said Majid Al Munif, an adviser to Saudi Oil Minister

Since Arab Gulf states account for around 65 per cent of OPEC's oil exports, they will be more affected that other members, he said in a study presented at an energy conference in Muscat.

"The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) is estimated to have an oil export decline of 450,000 barrels per day (b/d) and a real revenue decline of \$3.4 billion in the year 200," he said. "The GCC's cumulative

\$17.7 billion compared to the

pre-tax scenario." GCC states and other oilproducers have strongly attacked the tax, which could be enforced in the EU and other members of the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

GCC countries — Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates — argue the tax will hit their economies as oil accounts for more than 90 per

cent of their national income. They have accused the EU of seeking additional revenue to tackle budget deficits, but the Europeans defend the tax as measure aimed at protecting the environment by containing the emission of carbon dioxide.

EU and GCC foreign ministers will meet in Riyadh early next month to discuss the tax, which has hurt their relations and overshadowed negotiations for a free trade agree-

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Africa, M.E. telecoms need \$25b investment

CAIRO (R) - African and Middle East telecommunications need at least \$25 billion of investment by the end of the decade just to maintain their current modest rate of growth, a senior U.N. official

Pekka Tarjanne, secretarygeneral of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), said still more money was required to make inroads in sub-Saharan Africa, which has only one telephone line for every 250 inhabitants.

He urged the delegates at Africa Telecom 94 — a trade fair and forum - to seek partnerships with govern-ments or local firms in the region. About 280 companies are exhibiting at the show.

Mr. Tarjanne said \$3 bil-

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lion was invested in telecommunications in the region in 1992, just 30 per cent of the sector's revenue.

"This problem of underinvestment needs to be addressed in a number of countries," he told delegates.
Mr. Tarjanne said that 4.7

million new lines had been installed in Africa and the Middle East from 1987 to

"ITU research has shown that a minimum investment of \$25 billion is required by the end of the decade in order to sustain the current, relatively modest, levels of growth in the region. A much higher level of

investment would be necessary to make a significant impact in the African conti-

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nent, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa," Mr. Tarjanne said.

He said governments should establish clear regula-tory outlines for firms working in the sector, but "responsibilities for taking the risks must lie with the private

Other speakers at the conference backed Mr. Tarjanne's call for private investment and deregulation in the

Mahmoud El Soury, chairman of Egypt's National Telecommunications Organisation, identified tight state control as a major force preventing the sector from getting private investment.
"In some cases, govern-

ments are so sensitive about

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the sector that it is viewed as intrinsically linked with the issue of national severeign. ty," said Olawale Ige, chief executive of the Nigerian firm Informatics General and Electrics Ltd.

"The private sector is the key to action," said Jonathan Solomon, a director at the British firm Cable and War-

But others said that most joint ventures involving foreign firms ended in failure.

"Unless there is the commitment, will and a genuine desire to ensure universal telecommunications accessibility, joint vetures may not necessarily further the cause of developing nations," Mr. Ige said.

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<u> Amman - Jordan</u>

Lloyd's backers launch biggest court challenge

LONDON (R) — Some of the Party. biggest losers in the Lloyd's of London insurance market began a landmark three-month battle in the High Court Tuesday seeking compensation from their agents for alleged

negligence.
Some 20 names, mostly middle-aged men in city suits, heard their counsel, Geoffrey Vos, allege that managers of Lloyd's Gooda Walker syndicates had exhibited "incompetence on a spectacular scale" in failing to reinsure massive

catastrophe loss liabilities. An action group representing about 70 per cent of Gooda Walker backers, some 3,063 names, is claiming £629 billion (\$937.1 million) compensation, their share of £928 million (\$1.38 billion) in audited Gooda Walker losses to date.

This covers alleged negligent underwriting from 71 Lloyd's members' and managing agencies, a record number of parties in an English legal action. Names support the 300-yearold insurance market with their personal wealth as collateral. Gooda Walker accounts for around a fifth of the market's total £5.5 billion (\$8.21 billion) losses announced in the last

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Mr. Vos said it was the duty of catastrophe loss syndicates to be aware of the probability that disasters would occur and that the disasters that caused the losses at Gooda Walker were "neither unprecedented,

nor unexpected." It would be charitable to describe the underwriting procedures (of the syndicates) as gambling," Mr. Vos said.

Lloyd's names include 15 members of Britain's House of Lords and about 50 legislators from the ruling Conservative

One present in court, a businessman, said he had suffered personal losses of at least

£1.5 million (\$2.24 million).
"We were recruited avidly and we were misled. The real responsibility for that lies with Lloyds, because they knew what the losses were coming thundering down the line," he

The defendants say the losses were more than could have been anticipated and they could not be held liable for

Lloyd's has announced losses of £5.5 billion (\$3.21 billion) in the last three years as a result of huge claims from a recent series of natural and industrial disasters.

Gooda Walker specialised in the high-risk area of catas-

trophe reinsurance and was overwhelmed by claims in the early 1990s. Total Gooda Walker losses are expected to reach £1.1 billion (\$1.64 bil-Mr. Vos said any one of

these disasters would have overwhelmed the syndicates involved and that assessments of the syndicates' probable maximum losses were either not made or were wildly inaccurate.

The Gooda Walker case is the first of a string of actions against Lloyd's agents brought by names' action groups and will be keenly watched for the precedents it will set.

Altogether, names are seek-ing compensation for around £3 billion (\$4.48 billion) of Lloyd's total losses to date. Market analysts say Lloyd's will announce a £2 billion (\$2.99 billion) to £3 billion (\$4.48 billion) loss in May for its 1991 year.

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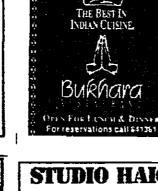
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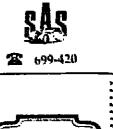
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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) - Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs

One sterling

One ounce of gold

1.3742/52 1.6738/48 1.8812/22 1,4296/06 34.46/50 5.7510/60 1609.0/0.5 102_74/84 7.8200/00 7.2740/90 6_5910/60 \$1_5052/62 \$374.70/375.10

Canadian dollar Deutschemarks Dutch guilders Swiss francs Belgian francs French francs Italian lire Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns Danish crowns

TOKYO (R) - Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata, still floundering awo days after his election, prepared Wednesday to launch Japan's first minority government in four decades after failing to mend the broken ruling coalition.

Mr. Hata faces the prospect of unstable minority rule and early elections after trying in vain to persuade the Socialist Party to return to the coalition.

The Socialists walked out Tuesday after Mr. Hata's chief ally, backstage boss Ichiro Ozawa, created a new parliamentary bloc grouping all the coalition parties except the

On Wednesday Mr. Ozawa held out an olive branch, offering to dissolve the bloc which the Socialists saw as a move to relegate them to the sidelines of government.

His overture was flatly re-"We don't plan to return to the coalition," Wataru Kubo,

Socialist secretary-general, said after meeting Mr. Ozawa. "There's no sense to holding up the formation of a new cabinet... we urge Hata to get started," he told reporters. Mr. Kubo ruled out a lastditch meeting between Mr. Hata and Socialist Party Chairman Tomiichi Murayama. "There's not going to be such a

meeting," he said. Mr. Hata was due to decide when to form a cabinet at a meeting with his alliance partners Wednesday evening.

Officials at Mr. Hata's Shinseito (Renewal Party) said he hoped to begin the task later Wednesday or Thursday in order to have a government in place before the start of a

10-day holiday period Friday. News reports said Mr. Hata might reserve the six posts that the Socialists had occupied in the outgoing government in case they returned to the

The latest crisis has prolonged a paralysis of government already two months old. Long overdue are the state budget for 1994/95, supposed to have taken effect on April 1, and measures to fire up the recession-bound economy.

With a weak government, Japan will also have a difficult time drafting market-opening measures to present to the United States by the promised

Mr. Ozawa is widely blamed for sparking the political

"Ozawa's plan for political reconfiguration calls for the destruction of all existing parties and the creation of a large governing bloc that will support his plan for restructuring Japan," said columnist Takashi Tachibana.

"It means a short life span for Mr. Hata's administra-

Just hours after the Socialists helped elect Mr. Hata to succeed outgoing Premier Mori-hiro Hosokawa, Mr. Ozawa created a new bloc grouping the coalition's conservatives and centrists to the exclusion

of the Socialists.

Mr. Hata himself admitted being left in the dark. "I wasn't aware the parliamentary bloc would be formed (right away)," he told reporters earlier, adding that he had thought it would be a mid-term goal.

Mr. Ozawa sees the bloc as a step towards his long-cherished goal of creating a new conservative party to rival the once-dominant Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), still the biggest political group. But the Socialists reject the idea of a political system dominated by two conservative parties.

Hirotaka Akamatsu, a former Socialist secretarygeneral, said there was no likelihood of his party rejoining the government as long as Mr. Ozawa continued to dominate affairs.

"Ozawa misjudged us," he said.. "Now, even if he and his backers offer to disband the bloc, we're not going back with

things the way they are."
The Socialists hold 74 seats in the 511-strong lower house. Without them, Mr. Hata has 187 seats, short of the LDP's

Unless he can lure them back even now, Mr. Hata will have to settle for forming Japan's first minority government since 1955, a development likely further to delay legislation and hasten general elections, not due until the summer of 1997.

"There's no way around it," said commentator Hisayuki Mivake. "Hata will have to form a minority government if the Socialists don't come around... minority rule means weak government and early



Nagoya Airport (AFP photo)

3 boys among 9 survivors in Japan crash

NAGOYA, Japan (R) — Three little boys were among the nine passengers who miraculously survived the crash of a China Airlines plane in this Central Japanese city on Tuesday night, the crash killed 262 people.

Airport officials said Wednesday that all nine survivors were in either serious or critical condition. The Airbus A300-600R ex-

ploded into small, mangled pieces on impact at Nagoya Airport. The airport was reopened at

5:30 p.m. (0830 GMT) on Wednesday, 21 hours after the crash.

"All nine survivors are in serious condition," said Saburo Hara, deputy head of the Transport Ministry's Nagoya Airport Office. "We can't ask them about details of the plane crash," he said.

One three-year-old Filipino boy, identified as Hiroyoshi Villanueva, was unconscious in critical condition and was undergoing emergency surgery at a local hospital.

Japanese brothers Yuji Nakayama, six, and his brother, Seiji, three, were in serious condition.

"Papa, papa," Seiji cried out when his father came to identify them, hospital staff said. Kyodo News Agency said their mother, Daisy

Nakayama, a Filipina, and an uncle, Kazuo Doi, who were returning with the boys from Manila where they had attended Mrs. Nakavama's sister's wedding, both died.

"It was nothing but a mira-cle," said firefighter Sadashige Kikuyama who pulled out of the boys from amid the burning wreckage and dozens of charred, mangled bodies.

"He was caught under the plane's tires," Kikuyama said. "I just happened to hear this faint call of a boy saying mama, mama. It hurts." Mr. Kikuyama and his colleagues removed the huge tire and rushed the boy to safety.

The other survivors included Noriyasu Shirai, 31, a Japanese, Sylanie Betonio, 22, a Filipina, and two Taiwan men, Yang Shih-Wei, 33, and Chu Wen-Ching, 41. All but Chu were in critical condition,

hospital officials said. There were also two adult females of unknown nationality who were in critical condition, hospital officials said.

Kyodo said one of them was Marian Hasebe, 34, of Nagoya, who appeared to be a non-Japanese Asian woman. Families of the dead were

taken to a makeshift morgue to identify the bodies. The bodies were in an air force hangar opposite the runway.

By late afternoon, only 69 of the dead were identified by either the families or by their passports or other belongings. Relatives from Taiwan and the Philippines had not arrived

by late afternoon Wednesday. "It's very difficult to identify the bodies," said a police spokesman at the make-shift morgue. "Only a few of the bodies are unscratched. Most of them suffered from severe

he was among a few who managed to identify a victim, his eldest daughter, Chizuko Fujita, 50. "My daughter's face was un-

Kiminori Ishizuka, 71, said

scarred although those of many other passengers were badly burned," Ishizuka said. "She only had a scratch near her "My first reaction (after

news of the crash) was to hope that my daughter was still alive," he said, and then burst into tears.

Police were calling in dentists and forensic experts to help families to identify their

Meanwhile, Transport Ministry investigators were starting their probe into the worst aircraft accident in Japan in nine years. The 11-member team led by

Manabu Matsumoto, chairman of the Aircraft Accident Investigation Committee, would start analysing the cockpit voice and flight-data recorders, which were retrieved from the wreck Tuesday.

Committee officials said it

would be at least 10 days before Mr. Matsumoto's team would release an preliminary report. Mr. Matsumoto's predeces-

sor, Hiroshi Fujiwara, said the probe would probably focus on why the plane stalled after aborting a landing attempt. "

Nagoya Police raided the offices of China Airlines and confiscated documents to infessional negligence.

MANILA (AP) - A disheveled Miss Romania lost out on VIP treatment when she arrived at the Manila airport after missing her flight from Bangkok. Michaela Ciolaca, who arrived two hours later than expected, dragged her own bags and queued at the customs area after the escorts assigned to meet her left when she did not appear on the scheduled flight. "She was pulling two pieces of wheeled luggage" an airport officer said. "On one arm she had a imp lei and a passport. It was too late when we found out she was a contestant." Miss Ciolacu seemed the worse for wear. When reporters asked if she had a boyfriend, she snapped: "Men are just trouble."

They'll be on their toes in San Franciso

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — The dance world will be pirouetting around San Francisco next spring when the city's ballet company will host a festival in honour of the 50th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations charter. The Bolshoi Ballet, the Kirov Ballet, the Shanghai Ballet, Ballet Nacional De Cuba, Rambert Ballet of Great Britain, the National Ballet of Caracas, the Dutch National Ballet and the Australian Ballet have all indicated an interest in attending the six-day festival May 9-14, 1995, said San Francisco Ballet artistic director Helgi Tomasson. The U.N. charter was signed in San Francisco in 1945, and numerous events, including "united we dance, an international festival," are planned to commemorate the anniversary.

Brewer taps help : in Dutch draught drought

AMSTERDAM (R) :-Heineken, the world's second largest brewer, issued an urgent appeal for deliveries from its breweries across Europe as strikes at its main Dutch plants stripped bars and supermarkets of its beer. Heineken said it was tapping its non-Dutch breweries against the threat of beer shortages on the Queen's Day Holiday next weekend, when the Netherlands throws itself into nationwide festivities and sends beer consumption skybigh. The first deliveries from non-Dutch breweries are expected by Thursday night for the beer giant, second in size in the world only to Anheuser-Busch in the United States.

U.S. envoy to Haiti quits as policy changes

WASHINGTON (R) — The U:S. special envoy to Haiti has resigned, the State Department announced Tuesday, as the Clinton administration veered towards a new tougher policy against Haiti's military A brief statement from State

Department spokeswoman Christine Shelly said special envoy Lawrence Pezzullo agreed to step down effective April 29 after meeting Secretary of State Warren Christopher last Saturday.

The move was welcomed by supporters of exiled Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, one of whom said Mr. Pezzullo was associated with a

"It was necessary for him to be laced to order for the administration to make clear that tise policy he had implemented and which is now discredited has now, in fact, finally been ahandoned," the Aristide adviser said.

-A State Department official said Mr. Christopher did not ask for Mr. Pezzullo's resignation. "They met, had a discussion and agreed it was best be left," the official said. "He did not quit in disgust, neither was he fired."

But Mr. Pezzullo, 68, an experienced former U.S. ambassador to Uruguay and Nicaragua who took up the Haiti position 13 months ago, was seen as the author of a policy which the Clinton administration is now abandoning. Mr. Pezzulio backed a plan

to build a new broad-based government in Haiti that he hoped would pave the way for the eventual return of Mr. Aristide, ousted by a military coup in September 1991. Last week, the Clinton

administration, under fierce attack from some of its own súpporters over Haiti, gave up the Pezzulio plan and arinounced it would seek to stiffen United Nations sanctions against Haiti's military rulers to force them into sub-TRISSION.

"It was clearly impossible for him to continue. The new policy needed credibility and Pezzullo was under attack from Congress and Aristide," said one administration source.

The Haitian government Mr. Pezzullo wanted to build would have included some supporters of the forces that overtarew Mr. Aristide, But Mr. Aristide rejected the plan, seeing it as a U.S. retreat from its insistence on his unconditional return to power. Haiti has been without a

hands-on leader since Prime Minister Robert Malval resigned four months ago. Mr. Malval was the choice of toppied President Jean-Bertrand Aristide but stepped down in December after the military prevented him from working and blocked a U.N.-mediated plan to return Mr. Aristide to

power. The head of Haiti's Chamber of Deputies, Frantz Monde, asked parliament Tuesday to take steps "to fill the institutional void" left by Mr. Malval's departure.

Mr. Monde is a fierce opponent of Mr. Aristide. In the first three months of this year, an increasingly bitter rift opened between the Un-ited States and Mr. Aristide.

NEWS IN BRIEF

N. Korea 'will not allow' full inspections

TOKYO (AFP) - North Korea said Wednesday it would not allow full inspections, including sampling of spent fuel, when it permits international monitors to witness the replacement of fuel rods at its nuclear reactor. A North Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman said Pyongyang would allow experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to conduct inspections "for the continuity of safeguards to verify non-diversion of nuclear materials." But he added that North Korea would regard it as "a sinister political intention" if Washington and the IAEA "rudely demand sampling and other inspection activities," according to a despatch carried by the official Korean Central News Agency and monitored here. The Vienna-based IAEA has said it would not send experts to observe the replacement of fuel rods at a five-megawatt experimental nuclear reactor unless they were allowed substantial inspections. According to U.S. officials, the changing of fuel rods, possibly in the next few weeks, could provide enough plutonium for North Korea to make four or five nuclear bombs.

Heavy fighting rages in Cambodia

ARANYAPRATHET, Thailand (AFP) — Cambodian government troops and Khmer Rouge guerrillas were locked in battle Wednesday east of Poinet, with artillery and gun fire clearly audible across the border in Thailand. Fighting was centred around Nimit, on Route 5 between Poipet and Sisophon, and Route 5 was cut 12 kilometres out of Poipet, Thai officials said. It was the second day of clashes in the area. Thai military officials said Tuesday that the guerrillas attacked were available on the number of men involved in the attack. In Phnom Penh, Cambodian Co-Premier Hun Sen said Tuesday that the Khmer Rouge had launched a heavy attack on the border town of Poipet and that more than 100 civilians had fled to Sisophon, 48 kilometres to the west. (He expressed surprise at the size of the guerrilla attack.)

Anglo-German summit opens

LONDON (AFP) — German Chancellor Helmut Kohl arrived in Britain Wednesday for a summit meeting with Prime Minister John Major on the future of Europe and the war in Bosnia, officials said. Mr. Kohl went directly to Mr. Major's country residence, Chequera, where he and Mr. Major were to meet and lunch. The chancellor was accompanied by his ministers of finance, economy, foreign affairs and defence, who were to meet simultaneously with their respective counterparts before joining the Kohl-Major summit. Government sources said the meetings would concentrate on the situation in Bosnia, expansion of the European Union to Eastern European countries, the EU's Corfu summit in June and Germany's rotating EU presidency which begins after-

Russia to take part in G-7 political talks

ROME (R) - Russia will take part in political discussions at the G-7 summit in Naples, but not in the economic deliberations of the world's seven biggest economies, Italy said Wednesday. The office of outgoing Prime Minister Carlo Azeglio Ciampi said in a statement Russia would also take part in preparatory talks for the July 8-10 talks. "Russia will have a greater involvement," said a senior government official. "It will take part in the political part but not the economic one — we're not yet talking of a G-8." Russia has in the past attended G-7 summits as an observer and was presented with the results of the political and economic talks once they were over, Mr. Ciampi's office said. President Boris Yeltsin has been pushing for full membership of the group, which links the United States, Germany, France, Britain, Italy, Canada and Japan.

NATO military chiefs meet former foes

BRUSSELS (R) - NATO military chiefs met their counterparts from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union on Wednesday to discuss cooperation and the "partnership for peace" plan for joint exercises and training. It was the third such meeting since the end of the cold war, bringing together chiefs of staff from more than 30 countries, including the United States and Russia. The chairman of NATO's Military Committee, Field Marshall Sir Richard Vincent, told the meeting valuable progress had been made in "helping safeguard peace through active cooperation on defence matters and military contacts." "Given the number of world crises, as well as their complexity, it is increasingly evident that this cooperative approach... is a practical and useful element in our attempts to provide stability and peace," Marshal Vincent said. The military chiefs were due to discuss peacekeeping in Europe, including in former Yugoslavia, as well as the "partnership for peace" programme.

Gunmen kill Catholic in North Belfast

BELFAST (AP) — Gunmen killed a Roman Catholic man Tuesday night and police said they believe the attack may have been retaliation for the IRA slaying of two Protestants Sunday. The outlawed Protestant paramilitary group the Ulster Freedom Fighters claimed responsibility for Tuesday's killing in a statement to news organisations but gave no explanation for it. Police headquarters in Belfast said in a statement that the gunmen entered the North Belfast home of the 52-year-old taxi driver and shot him as he sat watching television. On Sunday, an Irish Republican Army gunman killed two Protestant men as they sat chatting in two cars parked side by side in Garvagh 45 miles (70 km) northwest of Belfast. The IRA said the two were members of the Ulster Freedom Fighters.

Deputy's in Russian

MOSCOW (R) — The mafia-style murder of a Russian deputy, shot dead at his home, raised a storm in Russia's parliament Wednesday, with allies insisting he had been the victim

eveninng.

The killing of Mr. Azderd-zis, 35, raised fears members of parliament might now become targets for the first time after a succession of killings of bank-

ers and businessmen

"Judging from first reports it is clear that this was a contract killing and, in our view, it was a political killing," Vladimir Medvedev, a member of the

politician. The effect on the mood of the Duma was drama-

terior Minister Viktor Yerin, who has repeatedly pledged to crack down on mafia-style organised crime, appear in parliament to comment on the

at the site of the attack.

terior minister's resignation.

slaying raises uproar Duma

of a political assassination.

Andrei Azderdzis, a member of the centrist New Regional Policy (NRP) group, was gunned down on the strairwell of his home at Khimki, a suburb of Moscow on Tuesday

Mr. Azderdzis had also been

chairman of the private MDK Bank, but left the post after being elected to the State Duma lower chamber in De-

NRP, told parliament. Whether the killing itself was politically-motivated or the settling of an old score in Russia's increasingly violent business world, its victim was a

Deputies demanded that In-

Several dozen set off for the victim's home to pay homage Ultra-nationalist Vladimir

Zhirinovsky demanded the in-"Pass on to the President (Boris Yeltsin), my acceptance of the position of Interior Minister," he commented, sar-

fractures or bad burns." Heavy fighting erupts in Rwanda capital

NAIROBI (R) — Mortar and rocket fire boomed out across Rwanda's capital Kigali, shattering a unilateral ceasefire declared by rebels, a senior United Nations official said Wednesday.

"It's broken down almost completely. There has been heavy shelling," Abdul Kabia, executive director of the U.N. Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) told Reuters by telephone. Mass killings of opposition

party supporters from the majority Hutu tribe and Tutsis by government soldiers and militia youths appeared to be continuing unabated.

The army and the militia are loyalists of slain Hutn President Juvenal Habyarimana, killed in a rocket attack on his plane on April 6. The rebel movement is dominated by Tutsis. "We hear of fresh massacres

every single day," said one foreign aid worker who asked not to be named. A unilateral ceasefire was

declared by the rebel Rwanda

Patriotic Front (RPF) at mid-night Monday. Guerrilla lead-ers said they had come under bombardment by Tuesday afternoon. Mr. Kabia said the airport

east of the city, under the control of government forces. came under heavy mortar attack late Tuesday, prevent-ing a U.N. plane from landing. UNAMIR complained to the rebels, who explained government forces had moved their big guns onto the airfield.

"This was later confirmed and the U.N. has asked the government to remove their guns, which they agreed to do," said Mr. Kabia.

Both the U.N. and the RPF have proposed making the airport neutral, but the govern-ment has so far refused, U.N. officials said. The RPF shelled the airport Monday as three government helicopter gunships took off.

The shelling in Kigali kept up overnight and became sporadic after 9:00 a.m. local time (0700 GMT) Wednesday, Mr.

One missile slammed into a tennis court 15 metres from UNAMIR's headquarters. Mr. Kabia said UNAMIR

commander Brigadier-General Romeo Daliaire would try to meet military chief of staff Augustin Bizimungu and RPF officers to propose a mutual halt to fighting following the breakdown of the rebels' ceasefire. The government side offered its own ceasefire in a document signed in Zaire Sunday.

Some aid workers said they were optimistic senior government commanders were tired of the killing. "There is the feeling that things have got out of hand," said one aid worker. On Tuesday RPF Secretary-General Theogene Rudasingwa challenged the world community to see if government forces would stop the killings.

He said the RPF refused to negotiate with the government which declared itself in charge in the aftermath of Mr. Habyarimana's death and pre-dicted a fight to the bitter end.

Thousands pay tribute to Nixon before burial

YÖRBA LINDA, Calif. (R) Thousands of mourners filed past former President Richard Nixon's coffin Wednesday, paying their last respects before the burial of one of America's most controversial presidents.

castically.

The Nixon Library and birthplace in the small California town of Yorba Linda was open throughout the night for mourners to walk by Mr. Nixon's body, which lay in state in a flag-drapped coffin before his funeral, which was to be attended by President Bill Clinton and other dignitaries.

Mr. Nixon was to be buried next to his wife. Pat, in the grounds of the Nixon Library, close to the modest whitepainted house where he was born 81 years ago. Mr. Clinton has declared

Wednesday a national day of mourning and ordered all federal offices closed for the day.
The body of the 37th president, who died in New York last Friday after a stroke, was

flown back to California Tues-

day abroad a Boeing 707 he used to fly in as president.

Mr. Nixon's daughters, Julie Nixon Eisenhower and Tricia Nixon Cox, accompanied the body on his final homecoming to staunchly Republican

Orange County,
Officials said that, by late
Tuesday night, about 10,000 people had viewed the casket despite torrential rain during the day — with another 5,000 to 6,000 people waiting outside in a line that stretched for several blocks.

Mourners faced waits of up to eight hours in the line, and, according to television reports, police were now asking people to stay home.

It was a remarkable display of respect for a man who worked his way up from congressthe Watergate scandal.

man, senator, vice-president to the highest office in the land, only to become the only U.S. president to resign because of In recent years, Mr. Nixon

transformed himself into an elder statesman whose views on foreign affairs were listened

to by later presidents, including Mr. Clinton. "I have reservations about his Watergate involvement, but what is, is, and I still feel like he was a good president," said Linda Ebert, 49, who lined up to view the expresident's coffin.

Many mourners said they felt more attention should be paid to Mr. Nixon's successes in thawing relations with China and the Soviet Union and less to Watergate, the scandal over the Burglary of Democratic National Headquarters and the later coverup which forced Mr. Nixon's resignation in August

Among the crowd was Fred Savage, 18, star of television's The Golden Years, who came from Los Angeles with a friend to pay respects even though he wasn't even born when Nixon resigned.

"I just wanted to come and pay my respects to a man who dedicated 40 years of his life to public service." said Savage. About 2,000 guests have been invited to the funeral, including Mr. Clinton and all

four living ex-presidents. Foreign dignitaries from 55 countries are expected, including Russian Deputy Prime

Minister Alexander Shokhin, Chinese Vice Premier Zou Jiahua, former British Prime Minister Edward Heath, Japan's Former Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and Israel's former President Chaim Herzog.

Among the controversial Nixon era officials to attend are former Vice President Spiro Agnew, who resigned in 1973 after pleading no-contest to tax evasion charges, and Charles Colson, Mr. Nixon's former special counsel who was convicted of obstructing justice in the Watergate

Eulogies will be delivered by Mr. Clinton, former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole and California Governor Pete Wilson.

During the funeral service, 21 U.S. Air Force G-16 fighter jets will honour Nixon with a traditional military 'missing man" formation fly-over.

"One plane will trail the other and pull out of formation, climbing vertically out of sight to signify" missing man."

48 years old and a 🔠 📭 great-grandfather N PLZEN, Czech Republic (AFP) — Koloman Gazi, a resident of this western Czech

town has set a world record by

becoming a great-grandfather at the age of 48, according to the regional daily Plzensky De-

nik. The newspaper said Gazi had his first child at the age of

15, who herself became a

mother at the age of 15. Her

son, Stefan, waited a little lon-

ger than his mother and grand-

father and recently had a

daughter, Miluska, at the age

of 18. According to the Guin-

ness Book of Records, the

world record for becoming a

great-grandfather is held by a 53-year-old Bulgarian, but

Gazi has appearently beaten

Revival of My Fair

NEW YORK (R) - Just over

two weeks after actor Michael

Moriarty stepped in to replace

Richard Chamberlain as Pro-

fessor Henry Higgins in the hit revival of My Fair Lady, the

producers posted a closing

notice Tuesday evening. The revival, which opened on

Broadway to rave reviews in

December, will close Sunday.

Business at the box office

dropped dramatically after

Moriarty took over the role of

the language-loving Henry Higgins from Richard Cham-berlain. Variety reported this

week the show sold only 59 per

cent of its capacity last week.

Chamberlain, who is known

best for his role as the suave

but kindly Dr. Kildare in the

hit TV series of the same

name, was in My Fair Lady

from the beginning, when it

opened last April. He toured

throughout the country where

the musical often broke box

office records. The show

opened in New York in De-

cember. At the time, producer

Barry Weissler told Reuters he

expected it would recoup its

total investment within a mat-

ter of several weeks. But when

Moriarty took over after

business slumped.

Miss Romania

misses plane,

VIP treatment

Chamberlain's contract ended,

Lady to close

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Graf wins rock libei

HAMBURG, Germany (AFP) — Steffi Graf won 60,000 marks (\$35,300) in damages Wednesday from a rock band who libelled her in a record. Die Angefahrenen Schulkinder claimed the song, brought out in 1992, was acceptable satire but a Karlsruhe appeal appeal court ruled it was crude money-making. The song contained the lyrics: "I want to make love to Steffi Graf, just like her father did it a thousand times before." Grap's lawyer said the money would go to

Decision nullifies Bayern win

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) — In a rare decision, Germany's Soccer Federation Tuesday nullified last weekend's 2-1 win by league-leading Bayern Munich against Nuremberg and win by league-leading Bayern Munich against Nuremberg and ordered the game replayed. In the controversial game played Saturday, which could affect Germany's first-division title race, referee Hans-Joachim Osmers validated a 1-0 lead for Munich on a shot by Thomas Helmer. Television cameras clearly showed the ball slithered just outside the left-hand post and never crossed the line into the goal. Each team scored one goal later in the game. Munich was given the win and two ponts in the standings, but the Nuremberg team filed a protest. German media was full of reports about the "scandal goal," and referee Osmers received telephoned death threats after the game. After several hours of witness testimony, and a review of the TV film footage, soccer federation judge Karl Schuberth announced that the results of the game were null and void and that the game must be replayed.

Boxer fights for life

LONDON (AFP) - English boxer Bradley Stone was fighting for his life here Wednesday after collapsing following his defeat in a British super-bantamweight title bout Tuesday night. He was said by a spokesman at the Royal London Hospital to be in a critical condition, after collapsing at his girlfriend's home following his loss to Richie Wenton. The fight was stopped in the 10th round, when Stone took a heavy left-hook followed by four more clean shots to the chin. It was his second stoppage defeat in 53 days after an 18-fight

Germany stays atop World Cup poll

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) - Germany maintained the top spot for the 17th consecutive week in the sprint soccer poll, a weekly ranking of the top 10 national teams as voted on by an international panel of soccer journalists, poll organisers said Tuesday. Despite losing a few first place votes, Germany garnered 33 of 41 top votes for a total of 402 points. Brazil, which received the other eight first-place votes, stayed in second with 376 points, the Netherlands held on to third with 260 points. Argentina placed fourth with 238 points, only 2 points ahead of fifth-place Italy. Colombia, which was fourth last week, fell to sixth with 198 points. Rounding out the top 10 were Norway with 111 points; Nigeria, 107; Belgium, 99. and Spain, 93.

NBA sets attendance record

NEW YORK (AFP) - Nearly 18 million people attended National Basketball Association (NBA) games, setting a record for the ninth time in 11 years, the league announced Monday. Attendance increased 1.68 per cent to 17,984,014 from the prior mark of 17,778.295 set last season. Average attendance was 16,246, breaking the old mark of 16,060 set last season. With an average arena capacity of 17,954 per game, NBA teams played to an average of 90.5 per cent

Wimbledon prize money increase by 12%

LONDON (R) — World number one Pete Sampras will earn £345,000 (\$517,500) if he retains his Wimbledon men's singles title this year following a 12 per cent rise in overall prize money. Sampras collected £305,000 (\$457,500) for beating fellow-American Jim Courier in last year's final. Australian Rod Laver won just £2,000, worth \$3,500 in today's money. After capturing the first open Wimbledon title in 1968. Prize money for the women's title increases from £275,000 (\$412,500) to \$310,000 (\$465,000) while overall prize money from £5,048,450 (\$7,572,675) to £5,682,170 (£8,523,255). All England Club Chairman John Curry said Wednesday he had no trouble defending the increases. "This is for the best players in the world," he said. "The performances the players give are fantastic over a number of rounds. It's an international tournament and we have to be comparable."

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

JUST A SMALL SWING

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Holyfield's heart fails him

ATLANTA (AP) — Even be-fore he knocked out Buster Douglas for the heavyweight title almost four years ago, Evander Holyfield knew something was wrong with his body. On Tuesday, four days after losing his title to Michael Moorer on a 12-round decision, Holyfield, 31, was di-

agnosed with a heart condi-tion, forcing his retirement. Holyfield's personal physi-cian, Ronald Stephens, said the condition was manifested by severe fatigue and was di-agnosed after the fight Friday night in Las Vegas. It is not life threatening. "It was not like he was sit-

ting on a time bomb," said cardiologist Douglas Morris. "His heart was not functioning at its maximum level. We did not look at this that his life was imperiled at any time."

Stephens, speaking at a news conference at Crawford Long Hospital, said Holyfield's condition is under control and he could lead a normal life if he follows a less strenuous lifestyle, meaning no more boxing.
"When Dr. Stephens told

me, it was an easy decision," said Holyfield, wearing a black warmup suit and slippers after walking slowly, with the aid of a nurse, to the podium. "I'm going to miss boxing a lot, but I believe God put boxing in my life for a reason. I had a lot of low for it and it made a house love for it and it made a better life for me and my family." Stephens said the condition,

diagnosed as a non-compliant left ventricle or "stiff heart," prevented sufficient oxygen from being pumped to muscles and tissues. The left ventricle is one of

four chambers of the heart and one of two ventricles. It is responsible for pumping blood out of the heart to the body. The right ventricle pumps blood to the lungs. Stephens said that after the

fight Holyfield, who lost for only the second time in 32 fights, was immediately taken to a Las Vegas hospital to treat a kidney condition caused by dehydration and strenuous exercise. He was given massive amounts of fluid, but his heart was not able to handle the fluid

"That's when we realised he had a cardiac condition," said Stephens, chief of general surgery at Crawford Long Hos-Atlanta Sunday night and was admitted to the hospital. He will undergo one more cardiac test before being released. Stephens said the cause of Holyfield's condition is un-

known so far, but it was not caused by fighting.
The condition was manifested by severe fatigue, Stephens said. "In retrospect, we realise he has noticed progressive fatigue over the past

couple of years." Holyfield said he first realised he was starting to get fatigued during training for the Oct. 25, 1990, fight with Douglas. Before that, he said, he was able to train for hours and then go out "dancing all

night But for the Douglas fight, I started to get sick and would complain to my handlers. They called me a crybaby," Holy-field said. "I then knocked out Douglas and everybody was

happy."
His next fight was against George Foreman April 19,

He said it was the same scenario in winning title defences in November 1991 against Bert Cooper and in June 1992 against Larry Holmes.



Henryweight boxer Michael Moorer (R), who took the WBA and IBF heavyweight titles away from Evander Holyfield (L) in their Las Vegas fight, backs Holyfield into the corner during the fifth round (AFP photo)

Champ Moorer in no hurry to fight again

NEW YORK (AP) — After winning the heavyweight championship last week, Michael Moorer is in no hurry

to fight again.
"It's still too early to think about that," he said at a news conference Tuesday. "Give me about two months."

Moorer, who captured the IBF and WBA titles Friday night with a 12-round decision over Evander Holyfield, said unifying the heavyweight championship is not a top priority. Lennox Lewis is recognised as champion by the WBC, boxing's other major sanctioning organisation.
"I don't have a burning de-

sire to fight Lews," said Moorer, the first left-handed heavyweight champion in history. "I don't have a burning desire to fight anyone."

If Moorer decides to fight Lewis, they will not meet until November or December be-cause Lewis already has bouts -scheduled against Phil Jackson and Oliver McCall. Another possible opponent is former champion Riddick Bowe. "Michael could fight L

Bowe or anybody in the top 10," said Moorer's manager, John Davimos. "We haven't made any decisions yet. We're not even sure how many more fights he'll have this year. It could be one or two." Holyfield will not have any more fights. He announced his retirement Tuesday after being diagnosed with a congenital

heart condition.
"I feel for han," said Moorer, who was knocked down by Holyfield in the second round. "I'm glad nothing serious hap-pened to him."

Moorer, a man of mercurial moods, opened the news conference with a falsetto-voice Michael Jackson imitation. But his voice deepened when he posed for photographers with the IBF and WBA belts. "I'm the man now," he proc-

laimed. "Yes I am." Moorer said winning the title will not change his outspoken personality.

"When I want to say something, I'll say it. I won't hold

back," he said.

Although one of the three judges scored the Holyfield fight even and another had Moorer winning by only one point, the new champion said he had no doubt about the

"Everybody thought it was going to be slugfest, but I outboxed him," said Moorer, who landed almost twice as many punches as Holyfield. "I beat him at his own game."

Inter defeats Salzburg 1-0 in first leg of UEFA Cup final

Italian international Nicola Berti scored in the 35th minute on a precise diagonal shot to give Internazionale of Milan a 1-0 victory on the road against Salzburg in the first-leg of the UEFA Cup final Tuesday

night.
The Austrian team allowed its first goal in six UEFA Cup tournament home matches on a rare attack by the visitors. Salzburg, an unheralded finalist in the European competition that Inter won in 1991, controlled play for long periods but did not produce

clear scoring opportunities.
Inter's defence appeared in trouble only in the first 10 minutes when forward Martin Amerhauser twice kicked the ball past the bar from 10 metres

The Milan team withstood the steady attacks of Salzburg although playing with only 10 players for most of the second half following the expulsion of midfielder Alessandro Bian-

Bianchi was sent off the field by Danish referee Kim Nielsen in the 48th minute after being cautioned twice for rough play.

tion last month after recovering from a bad knee injury, scored the winning goal on Inter's first offensive action. Uruguavan forward Ruben

Sosa fed Berti on a free kick. The Italian midfielder, who is likely to be included on the Italian World Cup team, controlled the ball six metres from the Austrian net and scored with a right drive from an angled position before Thomas Winklhofer could carry the

Inter's surprise goal disheartened a sellout crowd of \$0,000 hoping that Salzburg might become the first Austrian team to win a European soccer title. In the 45th minute, the visi-

tors had another clear opportunity. Sosa, left unmarked on the edge of the penalty area, got the ball from his Dutch teammate Wim Jonk and exploded a powerful left kick. The ball hit the bar and bounced back into the field.

Following Bianchi's expulsion, Inter concentrated on defence and Dutch forward Dennis Bergkamp was forced to play back.

While Salzburg pressed the attack without causing serious threats to goale Walter Zen-ga, Jonk had the best second-half chance in the 80th.

His diagonal shot went pest the post by a few centimetres. Salzburg's key players Heimo Pleifenberger and Hermann Stadler received their second yellow card in thetournament for rough play and will be automatically suspended for the second-leg final at Milan's San Siro Stadium. May 11.

Jonk, on his first caution inthe tournament, will start in the Milan final. Inter can be come the fifth Italian team in six years to win the UEFA"

Sosa, one of the best players on Inter's lineup along with Berti, said he was certain of another victory in the secondleg final.
Our fans will give us an

extra kick for winning the cupand salvaging our season.

Inter is at the bottom of the Italian league and needs draw in Sunday's last match of the campaign, against Atalanta, to stay in the first division.

Holdworth's hat-trick

sinks Oldham

LONDON (AFP) - A Dean Holdsworth hat-trick in 24 minutes plunged Oldham Athletic into deeper premiership re-legation trouble at Selhurst Park here Tuesday night.

Holdsworth took his tally for the season to 22 goals as the Dons showed no mercy to Joe Royle's struggling team.

The breakthrough came in

the 31st minute when Warren Barton's corner was nodded into the box by Gary Eikins, and Holdsworth escaped his marker to score. Two minutes into the

corner was nodded down by Earle, and Holdworth got in front of Gerrard to finish. Twelve minutes later Holdsworth raced on to substitute

second-half another Barton

Andy Clarke's through ball,

and rifled home Oldham still have games in hand over their relegation rivals but Saturday's home game against Sheffield Wednesday now takes on critical import-

Agassi and Connors advance in Atlanta

ATLANTA (R) - Third seed Andre Agassi recorded his first clay court victory of the year Tuesday when he beat Spain's Francisco Clavet in the first round of the \$300,000 ATT Challenge.

Agassi, who fell to Yevgeny Kafelinikov in his 1994 clay court debut in the first round at Monte Carlo last week, turned back Clavet 6-3 6-3 to advance. Forty one-year-old Jimmy

Connors, not only the oldest but the lowest ranked player in the sommament at 1,047 rallied in each set to beat American qualifier Doug Flach 7-5 6-4. The win was Connors' first on the tour since February

Top seed Michael Chang easily defeated fellow American qualifier Robbie Weiss 6-4 6-1, but both of last year's alists were knocked

Tuesday. Defending champion Jacco Eltingh of the Netherlands fell to American Richey Reneberg 2-6 6-2 6-0 and 1993 runner-up Bryan Shelton was ousted by

fellow American Wade McGuire 4-6 6-3 6-4.

Agassi never lost serve against the steady Clavet, butthe 20th-ranked American was. challenged by the 97th-ranked. Spaniard's drop shots in the second set and had to fight off. t break points in three service games.

"It was a good match for me to play," Agassi said. "I got a." good solid match with a guy who' made me hit a lot of balls.". Agassi is honing his clay-

game in preparation for the-French Open.
Connors trailedi Flach 5-2 in-

the first set and fought off a set point before winning five ames in a row to take the ser. 7-5 when Flach double-faulted. The crafty veteran also fought back in the second set after. dropping serve early. Another former world

ber one who has played sporatically in recent years alsoadvanced to the second round. Mats Wilander survived a: shaky middle set to beat South African Grant Stafford

Favourites abound in NBA playoffs

WASHINGTON (AFP) -Several top National Basketball Association (NBA) players are confident Thursday's league playoff openers signal the start of their club's march to a championship.

Trouble is, the crown fits only one team.

This is our year. Quote me," New York Centre Patrick Ewing said. "It's our turn to get to that light at the end of the tunnel. Chicago had to fight to get where they are. Now it's out turn."

Chicago beat the Knicks in the semi-finals last year on the way to a third straight NBA title. Even with Michael Jordan retired, the Bulls (55-27) are confident they will repeat.

"We are still the champions, you know." Chicago's Scottie Pippen said. "I feel we are (able to win again) because of our experience. The main thing is we've been there before. We know what the feeling is like and what crunch time is like in the playoffs." Seattle (63-19) finished with the league's best regularseason record and the Supersonics enjoy their top-seed sta-

"We aren't backing away from being the favourite. We earned it," Sonics' coach George Karl said. "This is fun. We are ready and I like our chances.

Karl expects teams to play at a slow tempo against Seattle. "Some teams are like Vietnam," he said. "The only way they can win is to slow it down. We're America. We have a nuclear bomb. If we have a burst, with our running game and defence, it's all over.'

The Atlanta Hawks have not won a playoff series since 1988, but they matched the Knicks (57-25) with the best record in the Eastern Conference this

"We can win it all," Atlanta

centre Jon Koncak said, "Everybody is going to make that statement. We just have to go out and do it." And there is always a com-

ment from Phoenix's Charles Barkley, whose Suns (56-26) made the finals a year ago. "When I am healthy and playing, we're the best team in the league. No question about it." Barkley said.

After all the predictions, the one most likely to come true belongs to New York coach Pat Riley, who guided the Los Angeles Lakers to four NBA

"This is going to be the greatest playoffs ever." he said. "I don't think there is a team that cannot beat any other team. Best-of-five opening round

play begins Thursday with Miami at Atlanta, Indiana at Orlando, Denver at Seattle and Utah at San Antonio, Friday openers find Golden State at Phoenix, Portland at Hous-

ton, New Jersey at New York and Cleveland at Chicago. The Bulls have eliminated the Cavaliers four of the past six years. But this year, Chicago lost three of four meetings

to Cleveland (47-35) "I don't think there are any easy matchups for anybody. Chicago coach Phil Jackson said. "We're going to have our hands full. I will be surprised if

there is not a first-round up-Utah (53-29) swept five games with the Spurs (55-27). who boast NBA scoring champion David Robinson and top rebounder Dennis Rodman. Utah has handled them well behind Olympians Karl

Malone and John Stockton. the NBA assists leader. Seattle split four games against Denver (42-40), which was more successful than most. against Seattle's fast-paced ba-... lanced offence and tough team defence.

"It's a well structured defence and when run properly. it can disrupt any team." Seat-tle's Nate McMillan said. Orlando (50-32) and Indiana

(45-35) split four games, but the Magic have something to prove in their first playoff appearance. "People don't think we're

for real, because we're a bunch-of young guys," Orlando's. Shaquille O'Neal said. "We. have beaten good teams. We've shown what we can do.".

New York lost four of five, meetings to seventh seed New Jersey (45-37), but Nets' coach, Chuck Daly knows the Knicks will be ready in the playoffs,

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.	up 12 tricks in double-quick time. The king of spades would re-eal the 4-0 split, declarer would draw	Location: Between Mecca Street & Seventh Circle. Please call 815211 - 826227	DISCOUNT ON ALL
mistakes, e hlunders, atively un- layed more; European natch fea- i Italy, the North- ed to open ous choice and also advised South hand tential for	trumps with the help of the marked finesse for the jack, then run the club suit. Fortunately, the British were more level-headed than that. East knew that West had to have at least one card higher than the eight, so rather than a suit-preference signal. West was simply encouraging a diamond continuation. Dummy was forced to ruff the second diamond and now the jack of trumps became the setting trick. All that Italy gained on the deal was 100 points when they rated to pick up 1,630!	Managed by hairdresser Manage	DUNLOP TENNIS, SQUASH RACQUETS, SHOES & SPORT WEARS WADI SAQRA BOOKSHOP TEL:63337
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!LJWAIT (R) — Businessmen from outside the Gulf may. soon be able to obtain short-stay visas on arrival at Kuwait airport or other border points under plans to cut red tape and boost the economy, a newspaper reported on Wednesday. The proposal for a streamlined 72-hour visa procedure will be considered by a government committee next week, the English-language Arab Times reported. The measure would help reactivate the stagnant non-oil economy and boost flagging business at local hotels. Citizens of fellow states belonging to the Gulf Cooperation Council — Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, The United Arab Emirates and Bahrain - may enter without visas. But procedures for other visitors require them to apply to Kuwaiti embassies abroad. They may board Kuwait-bound flights only after receiving confirmation the visa has been approved.

Ex-Thai police chief charged in theft case

BANGKOK (R) - Former national police chief Sawasdi Amornvivat is among six senior police officers charged in the case of jewellery stolen from a palace in Riyadh, Interior Minister Chavalit Yongchaiyudh said on Wednesday. "I acknowledge the charge against police Gen. Sawasdi and police legal adviser Lieutenant-General Sanong Wattanawarangoon," Mr. Chavalit told reporters, confirming newspaper reports. Mr. Sawasdi was transferred late last year to an inactive position as general inspector attached to the Interior Ministry after being charged with lese majeste for allowing an article that may have insulted the queen to appear in a royal gazette. He was later pardoned for the crime, a serious one in Thailand. The six have been charged with embezzlement and negligence of duty, current police chief Pratin Santiprapob

Militants vow to kill Mubarak in revenge

CAIRO (AFP) — The militant group Al Gamaa Al Islamiyah on Wednesday vowed to kill President Hosni Mubarak to avenge the death of its military leader. Police said they gunned down 32-year-old Talaat Yassin Hammam, head of the group's armed wing, and six other militants in a dawn raid Monday on his apartment in northeast Cairo (see page 2). In a statement sent to AFP, the Gamma warned Mr. Mubarak, saying: "Your head, as well as those of hundreds of torturers in the interior (ministry), will not be enough for our revenge." It mocked the government's effectiveness in fighting militants, saying Frammam used to plan his operations from a building located "a few metres from the general intelligence offices" in central Cairo. Hammam "dealt one blow after the other" to the regime, the statement said.

U.S. aid to Egypt to retain nominal value

CAIRC (R) - The United States is likely to maintain the nominal value of its aid programme for Egypt for the foreseeable future, even if Israel and all its neighbours make peace, a senior U.S. aid o rial said on Thesday. The U.S. civilian aid package, running at about \$900 million a year, is the largest single component in Egypt's aid recepits which together are worth about \$3 billion a year. Carol Lancaster, deputy administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), said: "I'd be surprised if we didn't have an aid relationship for a long time... with a country as large as Egypt and as strategic in the region." In the past of course the aid and the support Egypt gave to the Camp David accords were linked... (but) there's no discussion of phasing it out," she told a news conference at the end of a visit to Egypt.

Dud grenade thrown into Istanbul restaurant

ISTANBUL (R) - An undentified man tossed a grenade, which failed to explode, into a crowded restaurant in central Istanbul on Wednesday, triggering panic, police said. Two Russian tourists suffered bruises as customers fied the Diana hotel restuarant in Laleli district. The attacker escaped. There have been three previous bombings of tourist sites in Istanbal over the past five weeks. Two foreigners were killed and at least 15 people injured in a bomb attack on the covered bazaar on April 2, carried out by suspected Kurdish rebels.

3 Iranian soldiers killed in clashes

TEHRAN (AFP) - Bandits killed three soldiers and wounded five others in a clash in a major drug smuggling region of southern Iran, the paper Salam reported Wednesday. Security forces seized one of the bandits' vehicles in Sunday's fighting in Kerman province close to Baft, an area near the Pakistan border where there have been frequent such incidents, the paper said. Kerman and the neighbouring Sistan-Baluchestan province are key crossing points for traffickers smuggling drugs from Pakistan and Afghanistan onto the European and North American markets.

17 Iraqis held in Kuwaiti waters — diplomats

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait detained 17 Iraqis found in possession of 22 vessels in the emirate's territorial waters on Tuesday, diplomats said on Wednesday. It was the first reported Iraqi incursion since November 1993 when hundreds of protesters twice crossed the land border to protest about a U.N. demarcation of the boundary. The 17 were being held for questioning following their arrest by coast guards in waters between Kuwati's Warba and Bubiyan islands, the diplomats said by telephone. The 17 were spotted by Kuwaiti airforce planes on Monday and arrested on Tuesday in possession of 20 wooden boats and two fibreglass boats. Their purpose was not

Syria still buying Korean missiles — Israet

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Syria is still buying Scud missiles from North Korea, an Israeli general charged Wednesday, on the eve of U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's arrival here. Mr. Christopher is due to carry a fresh Israeli peace offer to Syria on Saturday ahead of a resumption of bilateral peace talks in Washington in early May. "Syria is continuing to buy launchers and Scud missiles built in North Korea," General Zeev Livne, Israel's civil defence chief, told Israel Radio.

Abducted Sudan ambassador freed

NAIROBI (AFP) - Somali gunmen released unharmed and without conditions Sudan's ambassador to Mogadishu following intervention by Somali faction leaders, diplomats said Wednesday. The ambassador, Abdul Bagi Mohammad Hassan was abducted in Mogadishu last week by four Somalis who said they were from the Hawadle clan. They demanded a ransom of \$100,000. Mr. Hassan was freed after Sudanese officials who went to Mogadishu last week requested some undisclosed Somali politicians to help secure his release, said a dipiomat who asked not to be named. The ambassador was "in good condition" and joked about having gained weight during his eight days in capativity. Several foreigners including a United Nations official, a Red Cross worker and employees of a catering firm have been kidnapped in the past two months amid a mounting wave of lawlessness as U.S. and other Western troops pulled out of the U.N. peacekeeping force in Somalia. All were freed after negotiations through clan elders.

China may stage two nuclear tests

LONDON (R) - China is likely to carry out two underground nuclear tests this year with the first expected towards the end of next month, according to a London think tank which monitors the tests. China is the only nuclear power still conducting tests. The other four - the United States, Russia, France and Britain — have all suspended them for time being. Patricia Lewis, director of the Verification Technology Information Centre (VERTIC), said she believed the Chinese were hurrying to complete a programme of tests before an expected global ban is negotiated, possibly next year.



Israel hopes Christopher can Gaza tempt Syria into peace deal

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel is counting on U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher to pressure Syria into a positive response to a peace offer he will pass on at the weekend, foreign ministry officials said Wednesday. But first the Palestine Li-

beration Organisation (PLO) and Israel must wrap up an agreement in Cairo to launch autonomy in the Gaza Strip and Jericho, the officials said. "We hope that during his stay in the region the negotia-tions on Gaza-Jericho will be

completed successfully," a Foreign Minister Shimon Peres could travel to Cairo on Thursday and meet PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat as

well as Mr. Christopher if a deal is clinched. Mr. Christopher would fly on to Israel late in the day ready for talks Friday with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

"Israel expects the secretary of state will then focus on Syria," the official said. "He is coming to see Israel's proposals and carry them on to

"He will act as a go-between to present Israeli proposals to Syria and then come back with the response.

"Israel hopes that Christopher will be able to put pressure on the Syrians to moderate

their position."
Mr. Christopher is expected to take Israeli position papers

By a Jordan Times

Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Eighteen more

Palestinian expellees headed

home on Wednesday, raising

to nearly 130 the number of

deportees and fugitives

allowed to return to the occu-

pied territories by the Israeli

occupation authorities since

the beginning of the Middle

Eleven of the expellees, with

more than 40 family members.

crossed the King Hussein Bridge across the River Jordan

to the West Bank. Seven

others were expected to enter

the Gaza Strip from Egypt

through the Rafah crossing,

Palestine Liberation Organisa-

The group that departed

from Jordan was seen off from

the PLO mission here with a

gathering kept at a low key in

reverence to the national

mourning in Jordan over the passing of Her Majesty Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen

Informed sources said all but

two of three of the 18 who

returned on Wednesday were

members of PLO Chairman

Yasser Arafat's mainstream

Fateh group and that they were

dealt with special cases under a

"Their names were not in

tacit Israel-PLO _greement.

any of the official lists submit-

ted by the PLO during the

Mother.

tion (PLO) officials said.

East peace process in 1991.

on the Golan to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on Satur-

Israel has thrown out a series

of ever stronger signals to Syria in the run-up to Mr. Christopher's visit about the extent of withdrawal it is prepared to consider from the strategic plateau. Syrian media welcomed

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's offer last week to dismantle Jewish settlements on the Heights in return for peace, but urged him to turn his words into deeds.

Chief Israeli negotiator Ita-Israel Radio, called the Syrian media reaction "disappoint-

ing."
However, he added: "We must differentiate between Syrian media reactions and substantive moves in negotiations.

"We are on the eve of the secretary of state's visit, and the important exchanges of words will be in Damascus between President Al Assad and Secretary Christopher,"

Mr. Rabin's centre-left coalition on Wednesday beat back an opposition attempt to introduce a bill that would require a two-thirds majority in parliament to approve any withdrawal. In a stormy session, the government won by 57 votes to 47.

Mr. Rabinovich said recent closed-door 'talks with Syrian delegates in Washington had

More expellees, most of them

Fateh activists, return home

omy accord.

over them."

the move."

source.

Cairo negotiations," said one

source, referring to the ongoing Israeli-PLO talks in

the Egyptian capital on implementing the Sept. 13 auton-

18 and some others came

through behind-the-scene

channels," said the source,

who preferred anonymity.

"Official PLO lists are formal-

ly presented in Cairo and Israel

takes its own time deliberating

"The idea is to increase the

reach of Fatch in the occupied

territories ahead of the take-

off of Palestinian autonomy,'

said the source. "For obvious

reasons, the Israelis are willing

to go along with the PLO on

given permission for 50 expel-

lees included in the "dozens of

lists" prepared by the PLO.

"They should be returning

home soon," said another PLO

Very few, if any, members

of PLO factions which oppose

the autonomy accord were in-

cluded among those who have

already returned home. These

groups mainly include the

Popular Front for the Libera-

tion of Palestine (PFLP) and

the Democratic Front for the

Liberation of Palestine

(DFLP), the second and third

largest PLO factions after

Israel first allowed 30 long-

The sources said Israel had

Israeli permission for the

made "beginnings" on com-plex security issues and matters relating to timetables for a possible settlement. "We were in a sense prepar-

ing the ground for a qualitative leap in these talks that could be reached either by the secretary of state or by the leadership of the two countries." He said such a leap could

take place this year if Mr. Assad signalled willingness to respond to Israeli overtures. "We are not asking for him to do us a favour," Mr. Rabi-

novich said. "The Syrians must do this for there to be an Mr. Rabin reiterated Tuesday that his country is ready to

pull back from the Golan Heights and dismantle Jewish settlements there. The statement, coming as Mr. Rabin concluded the formal part of a four-day visit to

Russia, provided more evidence of Israel's wishes to move ahead in stalled talks with Syria. Mr. Rabin told a news conference that Israel is "ready to

make painful compromises for "In the context of peace, I'm ready for a withdrawal on the Golan Heights. The geographical dimension will be de-

pendent on the depth of peace," he said. "For security reasons, we

will not vacate settlements. For peace, we are ready to do so," Mr. Rabin added.

in May 1993; most of them

were pro-PLO activists who beld official positions — of mayors and village council

leaders — in the occupied ter-ritories and expelled after

Since then, the Jewish state

gave permission to 47 other

expellees and allowed the re-

turn of nearly 30 Palestinians

who fled the occupied lands to

evade arrest after the intifada

erupted in December 1987

(The return home of more than

400 Palestinians who were ex-

pelled to South Lebanon in

December 1992 and allowed to

return one year later is not

The "fugitives," most of

whom had sought asylum in.

Arab Maghreb countries, re-

turned home in fives and 10s in

the past two weeks. A few

more remain in Tunis, Sudan.

Algeria and Libya and they are

also expected to return home

The Associated Press identi-

fied the 11 who crossed to the

West Bank on Wednesday as

Issam Al Dabee, Jamai

Ibara, Mohammad Al

Moutawer, Jamal Abu Latifi,

Mohammad Saeed Medyieh,

Salem Ahmad Breiwish, Oth-

man Mohammad Dawood,

Hani Mohammad Halloub.

Bahiat Mustafa Al Jayousi,

Rashid Abu Baker and

included in the count).

Bastille

GAZA CITY (AFP) — Nasser Fleifel rubbed his eyes in disbelief on Tuesday morning. The walls of the sinister Ansar II prison where he had served time were knocked down overnight by Israeli army buildoz-

"Through our struggle and

the negotiations we have managed to destroy this bastille of oppression," said the 26-yearold who spent three periods inside the walls — 18 days in 1987, the whole year of 1988, and 10 months in 1992.

'May God allow me to see all the bastilles of the occupation brought down," he said looking at the scattered barrels of cement which once made up the four-metre-high outside

walls of Ansar II. The single-storey building, once a British army horse stables, was used by Swedish U.N. forces until the 1967 Middle East war.

The Israeli army constructed a military base on the site and turned certain rooms into prison cells for Palestinians. But when the intifada

erupted in December 1987, the base proved too small. The following April, the army appropriated surrounding land and erected 18 tents each to hold up to 35 prisoners.

Thirty mobile rooms were brought in and divided into 112 cells to hold four men each. At the height of the intifada, Ansar II held 1,500 Palestimians, divided into six sections,

one for the under 16s. The Shin Beth security services who "interrogated" suspects and tortured most of them, according to human rights groups, occupied

another section.

The old British-built stables were used as a supply depot.

But by the end of February the last 50 immates had been transferred to prison camps in the Nagab desert as Israel and the Palestine Liberation Orgamisation (PLO) edged towards agreement to launch Palesti-nian self-rule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

Israelis called the compound "Hof," meaning seafront, and the Palestinians Ansar II, after the Lebanese village where the Israeli army set up a huge detention centre during the One watchtower still stands

guard over the ruins. "There were 16 like that," he said. The walls have been buildozed and the tarmac road through the prison dug up.

"Every stone brings back memories for me," said Sami Al Sawafiri, 24, who spent 18 months there. "Every corner has a story to tell."
"Ansar II should have been

turned into a museum to show future generations the suffering we have been through," he

"We did not want the Israelis to destroy the prison so we could keep it as part of our history. They did it so as not to let the world see how they violated human rights," Mr. Noureddin Ali Al Jaabari. Sawafiri said.

Israeli warplanes attack 🎏 Lebanon resistance bases

MARJAYOUN (AP) — Israeli warplanes struck a base of resistance-fighters in South Lebanon on Wednesday as U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher began a new Middle East trip to promote Arab-Israeli peace. Security sources in South

Lebanon said two fighterbombers fired two missiles into the hills of Mlita in Iqlim Al Tufah, a stronghold of Hizbollah (Party of God).

There was no immediate report of casualties in the 2:20 p.m. (1120 GMT) attack.

In Israel, an army spokesman confirmed the raid. He said the planes hit their target and returned safely to base.

The area attacked was under Hizbollah's control and used as training bases and launching pads for attacks, the Israeli spokesman said.

The air raid came a few hours after Hizbollah guerrillas fired five rocket-propelled grenades and dozens of rounds of machinegun fire at a post manned by the Israeli-surrogate South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said there were no casualties in the early morning attack on the SLA Hamra outpost in the western sector of the enclayed Israel has occupied in South Israel has occupied in South Lebanon since 1985 as a "security zone" against cross-

border guerrilla raids.
The SLA struck back with howitzers on the villages of Mansoura, Zieqin and Majdel Zoun facing Hamra.

In ensuing exchanges, Israeli and SLA forces blasted guerrilla positions facing the central sector of the "security zone" with 50 rounds of artillery, tank and rocket fire.

Hizbollah guerrillas retalias ated by firing several Katyusha rockets on Israeli and SLA positions in the hills of Sojod,

Rihan and Chizlan. Lebanese and Palestinian guerrillas have stepped up attacks on the SLA in recent weeks, killing 17 militiamen and wounding 25 others in

March alone. On Monday two SLA militiamen were hurt in an attack claimed by Hizbollah.

claimed by Hizbollah.

Israel has repeatedly said that one of its conditions or signing a peace treaty win Lebanon included an agreement by the Lebanese government to integrate the SLA atto the regular army. the regular army.

NATO 'alert' against Serb moves in Bosnia BRUSSELS (Agencies) -

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) said Wednesday it was still ready to bomb any Bosnian Serb weapons found in violation of an allied exclusion zone around Gorazde and to launch air strikes if the Serbs attacked other "safe areas" in Bosnia. The United Nations and

NATO agreed there was no immediate need for air strikes around Gorazde, since the Serbs complied with a NATO deadline, which ran out at 0001 GMT on Wednesday, to withdraw heavy weapons at least 20 kilometres from the town, one of six mainly Muslim U.N.designated "safe areas" in Bos-An alliance spokesman said

after a meeting of NATO ambassadors, who reviewed the latest intelligence information, that there were encouraging signs the "objective of lifting the strangulation of Gorazde has been achieved."

"This development gives hope for the future. Nonetheless, the alliance emphasises that the ultimatum remains in force and that it will continue to monitor the situation with the utmost vigilance," the spokesman said.

Hundreds of people have been killed in the siege of Gorazde in recent weeks, NATO and the United Nations were conducting a "robust reconnaissance" to make sure that all tanks, artillery and other heavy weapons had been removed.

"If any are discovered, they must be removed immediately or they will be subject to air strikes," the spokesman said. The alliance, which had threatened sweeping air strikes

around Gorazde and other

"safe areas" if they are attack ed by the Serbs, would be watching to see if withdrawn weapons were used to lay siege to other Muslim areas, NATO

sources said. "The (NATO) councilreiterated its determination to conduct air strikes in coordination with UNPROFOR (the U.N. Protection Force) if Gorazde and other safe areas... are attacked or exclusion zones are violated," the spokesman said.

That also includes the Bosnian capital Sarajevo, subject of a NATO ultimatum in February that forced the Serbs to withdraw their heavy.

weapons from around the city.

The alliance has said it will declare similar 20-kilometre exclusion zones around the four other "safe areas" — Tuzla, Zepa, Srebrenica and Bihac - if the Serbs even appear to threaten them with attack.

In Geneva, the Russian and French foreign ministers called Wednesday on the major world powers to act quickly to secure an end to the Bosnian war and a lasting negotiated peace settlement.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev and his French counterpart Alain Juppe said they expected the new diplomatic initiative launched Monday with the formation of a new four-sided contact group to coordinate policy on ending the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina to bear fruit by the end of next

European Union (EU), Russia, and U.S. representatives from the group — which also has United Nations input are due Thursday to travel to

Sarajevo and the nearby Bos-(Continued on page 5)

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